# MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

## 22 JANUARY 1987

### Iran-Iraq War

*Iraqi Peace Call* — Voice of the Masses radio broadcast a message to the Iranian people from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, who urged them to "listen to reason and opt for the path of peace," stressing that further attacks on Iraq will send "additional tens of thousands to the crematorium of death" and will bring "further disgrace and certain defeat" to Iran. Saddam Husayn outlined five bases for an end to the war: 1) complete and unconditional withdrawal to internationally-recognized borders; 2) a comprehensive and complete exchange of POW's; 3) the signing of a peace and nonaggression agreement; 4) noninterference in each other's mutual affairs and respect for each country's choices; 5) a "positive" contribution by both countries to regional stability and security, especially in the Gulf.

*Military Situation* — Over 150 Iranian civilians were killed in Iraqi air attacks on Qom and 5 other cities 21 January, according to IRNA, which said the "martyrs" toll in Qom was 100, with scores wounded. Other cities targeted were Ilam, Navahand, Pol-e Dokhtar, Bakhtaran, and Dezful. The agency also reported Iranian air strikes on the Iraqi cities of Irbil and Tuz Khurmatu. As for the battlefronts, Voice of the Masses broadcast a communique which maintained that Iraq's VII and II Army Corps wiped out attacking Iranian forces, killing hundreds. Tehran radio broadcast claims that six Iraqi planes were shot down over the battlefronts, but this was denied by an Iraqi spokesman, who told INA that all Iraqi planes returned to their bases.

### Iranian Statement on ICO

Iran will not participate in the ICO summit, according to an Iranian Foreign Ministry statement reported by IRNA. The statement cited the Kuwaiti Government's open support for Iraq in the war, the regional situation, the escalating trend of the war in southern Iraq, and the inability of Kuwait to guarantee the security of the summit as reasons for Iran's rejection of the summit. The statement also declared that resolutions passed at the summit "will not be legally binding."

### Kuwait

A group calling itself "The Prophet Muhammad's Forces in Kuwait — Revolutionary Organization" claimed responsibility for the three oil well fires that broke out 20 January in southern Kuwait, AFP reported, citing the Lebanese daily *Al-Nahar*. In a communique published by the paper, the group warned "personalities that do not want to consider the rights of the oppressed in Kuwait and tomorrow in Palestine" that "injustice would inevitably fall back on the head of its promoters."

### Israel

*'Al Hamishmar* reported 22 January that it has received confirmation of its earlier report that an Israeli envoy recently visited Jordan and concluded a "technical agreement" on cooperation between the two countries. The paper said that Al Schwimmer was the envoy sent by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres to Jordan, where he reportedly met with King Husayn and other Jordanian leaders. Citing "people close to the royal court in Amman," *Ma'ariv said that Jordanian-Israeli meetings took place at* various levels in 1986, though Jordan has recently curtailed them owing to opposition from Egypt.

### Lebanon

FRG nationals were evacuated from West Beirut following the probable abduction of a second West German in the Muslim sector of the city, DPA reported. On the whereabouts of Terry Waite, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon cited a REUTER report that the Anglican Church envoy had been taken for a meeting with hostages. Intermittent fighting continued between Amal and the Palestinians, Voice of Lebanon radio reported, noting that 11 people were killed and 79 wounded 20-22 January.

### Soviet-Saudi Talks

Soviet Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov told visiting Saudi Petroleum Minister Hisham Nazir that the USSR approves of OPEC's "constructive efforts" and takes them into consideration, TASS reported. Ryzhkov noted the Soviet Union's desire for "normal relations" with Saudi Arabia and for the development of "mutually advantageous ties" in trade, science, and culture. An SPA report on the talks said that Nazir's visit to the USSR is part of an OPEC-sponsored tour to explain OPEC's strategy for achieving oil market stability.

### Libya-Chad

A Chadian military communique broadcast 21 January by Ndjamena radio reported that Chadian Government forces were in "full control" of Zouar and the surrounding area after a "large-scale mopping-up offensive" launched earlier in the day. In a separate development, the Chadian Embassy in Paris stated in a 21 January communique that the Chadian Government is ready to begin negotiations with Libya "immediately," AFP reported. The communique, which also condemned Libya's "diplomatic gesticulations" over Chad, was issued a day after the Congolese foreign minister in Paris stated that Libya is prepared to contribute to a permanent settlement of the conflict.

### Polisario Attack on Portuguese Vessel

The Polisario Front claimed responsibility for machinegunning the Portuguese fishing boat *Eugenio* off the disputed Western Saharan coast 20 January, Madrid radio reported. The incident resulted in the deaths of three Moroccan soldiers, who were aboard the vessel to guard against Polisario attacks, the report noted.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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## ICO Officials Hold Meeting, Discuss Agenda

### Morning Session 21 Jan

*LD211501 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1345 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Jan (KUNA) — Sulayman al-Shahin, under secretary in the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry and chairman of the ICO senior officials' meetings that started this morning, said the morning session proceeded calmly and was conducted in a constructive and cooperative spirit.

Al-Shahin spoke at a brief news conference after the conclusion of the first working meeting, which was attended by senior officials from 41 of the 46 of the ICO member-states. Iran was absent from the meeting as were three African states — Uganda, Benin, and Nigeria. As for Afghanistan, its membership in the ICO has been suspended since 1980.

During the open part of the morning session, the conferees elected Gabon as vice chairman and representative of the African group, the Maldives as another vice chairman and representative of the Asian group, and the PLO as permanent vice chairman at all the ICO's meetings.

Al-Shahin said the morning meeting discussed 39 of the 59 items on the agenda. He added that some of those items have "a hot character," such as the Iraq-Iran armed conflict and the Chadian-Libyan conflict; "some are controversial," such as the situation of Muslim minorities in the non-Muslim world; and "some are complicated and interwoven to the degree that there is consensus among all to tackle it without much discussion, such as the Lebanese question."

Al-Shahin expressed hope that the participants will be able to finish the rest of the items on the agenda at the working session later today so they can be submitted to the ICO ministerial conference tomorrow.

Al-Shahin is expected to hold a full news conference after the conclusion of the meetings tonight.

### Syrian Proposals Rejected

*LD212134 Kuwait KUNA in English 2047 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[By Rashid al-Rouweshid]

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 21 (KUNA) — Chairman of the senior officials committee Sulayman Majid al-Shahin said here this evening that the committee rejected a Syrian proposal to reconsider Egypt's return to the OIC membership and to criticize King Hassan II of Morocco for his meeting with former Israeli Premier Shim'on Peres.

Al-Shahin said at a press conference tonight following the conclusion of the senior officials committee meetings, that the Syrian proposal did not win majority votes and, therefore, that it was deleted from the agenda which was prepared by the committee to refer it to the Islamic foreign ministers meeting.

Egypt regained its membership in the fourth Islamic summit conference which was held in Casablanca in 1984.

In reply to a question Al-Shahin said the Iraq-Iran war was discussed and the issue will be referred to the foreign ministers and the summit which will listen to a report from head of the follow-up committee and President Dawda Jawara.

Al-Sahin expressed hope that the Islamic leaders would succeed in setting up a work plan or a proposal that would implement any resolution on the Gulf conflict even in the absence of any party.

Iran, however, did not attend the senior officials committee meeting which ended here this evening.

He said that there are two proposals from Kuwait and Syria on international terrorism, in addition to a third proposal from Libya to denounce the U.S. air raids on Tripoli and Banghazi last April.

Al-Shahin added that there is a little difference between the Kuwaiti and Syrian proposals, noting that the Syrians want to stress on identifying terrorism. He reaffirmed that the summit agenda topped by the Middle East problem which includes the Palestinian cause, the holy Jerusalem problem, and a number of other issues. [sentence as received]

### More on Agenda; Meetings End

*LD211958 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1753 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Jan (KUNA) — Senior officials of the ICO member-states have ended their meetings, which started this morning, after drawing up the agenda to present to the ministerial meeting to be held here tomorrow, after they succeeded in removing controversial clauses.

The under secretary at the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry and chairman of the meeting, Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, told the *Kuwaiti News Agency* that this draft will be submitted to the foreign ministers for further examination, and possible amendments, before it is submitted as a proposed draft to the summit, which will approve it in its first session.

Mr Shahin said that the draft includes the Palestinian question and the Middle East issue under which come several clauses, including the question of Holy Jerusalem.

The draft also includes the Iraq-Iran war, the situation in South Africa and Namibia, the economic crisis in Africa, the problems of the sub-Saharan countries, the situation in Afghanistan, the Islamic Court of Justice, international terrorism in all its forms, and finally, the document on Islamic human rights.

Al-Shahin said that the participants in the meeting also approved economic items, including the report of the Permanent Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation, whose chairman, Turkish President Kenan Evren, will submit a report on its work to the fifth Islamic summit.

The chairman of the Committee for Scientific and Technical Cooperation, Pakistani President Ziaul Haq, will present a report to the summit on the work of this committee. Al-Sahin added that the chairman of the Permanent Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs, Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, will also present a report on the work of his committee.

Al-Shahin said that the chairman of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund will report on the activities of the fund. The Permanent Council is chaired at present by Yusuf al-Awadi, director for financial affairs at the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in Kuwait.

Al-Shahin said that the summit will discuss the date and place of the sixth Islamic summit conference and also the date and place of the 17th session of the Islamic foreign ministers meeting.

He explained that the participants in the meeting were able to omit some controversial items, "which might hurt some member countries, in an effort to devote most of the time and efforts to urgent, major problems." Al-Shahin praised the positive spirit shown by all the delegations to accomplish the tasks of this meeting.

### Foreign Ministers Arrive for Preparatory Meeting

*LD211744 Kuwait KUNA in English 1442 GMT*
*21 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 21 (KUNA) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-Alawi 'Abdallah and Qatari Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaykh Ahmad Ibn Sayf al-Thani arrived here Wednesday to take part in the Islamic foreign ministers meeting, scheduled to convene here tomorrow.

The three ministers were received at the airport by deputy premier and foreign minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir and minister of state for foreign affairs Sa'ud al-'Usaymi.

A later arrival was foreign minister of the Yemen Arab Republic 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani who was also greeted by Shaykh Sabah and al-'Usaymi.

### More Ministers Arrive

*LD211750 Kuwait KUNA in English 1535 GMT*
*21 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 21 (KUNA) — The U.A.E. minister of state for foreign affairs, Rashid 'Abdallah, Turkey's Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu and the Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn Imubarak al-Khalifa arrived here Wednesday to take part in the Islamic foreign ministers meeting due to open here tomorrow.

They were received by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud al-'Usaymi.

### Sierra Leonean Arrives

*LD212237 Kuwait KUNA in English 1802 GMT*
*21 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 21 (KUNA) — Foreign Minister of Sierra Leone Abdul Karim Koroma arrived here this evening to take part in the Islamic foreign ministers meeting scheduled to open here tomorrow.

Koroma was greeted on arrival by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud al-'Usaymi and a number of senior officials at the Amiri Diwan and the Foreign Ministry.

### Moroccan, Others Arrive

*LD212233 Kuwait KUNA in English 1712 GMT*
*21 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 21 (KUNA) — Foreign Minister of Morocco Abdellatif Filalili, Cameroon's Mohammed Baba Saleh and Senegal's Ibrahima Fall arrived here tonight to attend the Islamic foreign ministers meeting tomorrow.

The Foreign Ministers of Gabon Mohammed Mowata Biotsa, Somalia Abdurahman Jama Barre, Mauritania Lamine Ould N'Diayane and member of the Algerian Politburo and Culture Minister Boualem Bessiaeh also arrived here tonight for the same purpose.

The seven ministers were greeted on arrival by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmed al-Jabir, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud al-'Usaymi and senior Foreign Ministry officials.

### Arrivals Continue

*LD212244 Kuwait KUNA in English 2110 GMT*
*21 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 21 (KUNA) — Foreign ministers of Libya, Pakistan, Djibouti, head of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organization and head of Benin's delegation arrived here this evening to take part in the Islamic foreign ministers meeting due to open here tomorrow.

Libyan Foreign Minister Kamal al-Mansur, Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, head of Benin's delegation Ambassador to Libya Abdou Alssan, Djibouti Foreign Minister Moumin Bahdon Farah and head of the PLO Political Department, Faruq Qaddumi were greeted on arrival by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud al-'Usaymi and a number of senior officials.

Later this evening Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri arrived here to attend the Islamic foreign ministers meetings.

The Jordanian foreign minister was also received by Al-'Usaymi and a number of senior officials.

### Foreign Ministers Preparatory Meeting Begins

*LD221005 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Jan (KUNA) — The preparatory meeting of the foreign ministers of the ICO member-states began here at the Palace of Conferences this morning.

The ministers will discuss the draft agenda prepared by a committee of senior officials of various states, which met yesterday.

The meeting started with recitations from the Holy Koran. Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdelatif Filali, whose country hosted the previous ICO session, then made a speech expressing his deep consideration and appreciation to his highness the amir and to the Government of Kuwait for the great efforts made to provide the best conditions for the summit meeting.

He said the foreign ministers have before them "a long agenda" to discuss to prepare the working program for the meeting of our leaders. He expressed hope to see the spirit of understanding and good will prevail in the meetings.

He then proposed that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, should chair the meeting "because of his long experience and competence, which is recognized on the Arab and international levels, and his integrity, which makes him qualified to chair our meetings."

### Group Claims Fire Responsibility, Issues Threats

*NC220835 Paris AFP in English 0816 GMT 22 Jan 87*

[Text] Beirut, Jan 22 (AFP) — A previously unknown group has claimed responsibility for the fires which broke out Monday at the Al-Mukawa oil complex in southern Kuwait, the *Al-Nahar* newspaper reported here on Thursday.

The paper published a communique of a group calling itself "The Prophet Muhammad's Forces in Kuwait-Revolutionary Organization" and claiming to have set the fires.

The communique also implied a threat to Arab leaders who attend the fifth summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), due to start on January 26 in Kuwait City.

The group threatened "personalities that do not want to consider the rights of the oppressed in Kuwait and tomorrow in Palestine," adding that "injustice would inevitably fall back on the head of its promoters."

Five pro-Iranian groups had previously issued communiques in Beirut warning Moslem leaders not to attend the Islamic summit. Iran has threatened to boycott the summit because Kuwait allegedly backs Iraq in the Gulf war.

The blazes erupted in an oil well, a terminal and a plant north of Al-Mukawa, the Kuwaiti fire services said on Monday, adding that firemen took two hours to bring them under control.

### PLO Chairman 'Arafat on Summit, Camps War

*PM211105 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 17-23 Jan 87 pp 9-15*

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, also identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar, by *Al-Tadamun* Chief Editor Fu'ad Matar in Baghdad on 6 January]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] I said: As the Islamic summit conference is about to convene in Kuwait, we wish to hear your views on the following:

1. Do you agree with us that the Kuwait summit, if held, will be the summit of the victims of aggression?

2. Do you have any fears that this summit might be called off at the last moment, or does such a danger no longer exist?

3. What does the Palestinian file for this summit contain?

And, finally, do you feel you are stronger at an Islamic summit than you would be at an Arab summit, because you have an Islamic ideological dimension that enjoys Islamic support, rather than attempts by some Arabs to contain or encircle you?

He replied: This analysis of yours, given in the form of a number of questions, is inaccurate in my opinion. I will begin by answering the last question. All I can say in this connection is that we have no complaints against our Arab nation. We are a part of this nation, and we owe it as much as it owes us. It is no coincidence that our Arab nation has responded to us this year [1986], three times accepted our call for a foreign ministers conference to discuss the aggression against the camps in Lebanon, and formed a seven-member committee to follow up the matter. [passage omitted]

Thank God, our Palestinian revolution is strong because of what it gets from the Arab nation. Our funds and our arms come from the Arab nation. Our political victories in the world came after the Arab nation recognized us at the Rabat summit as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. That is how we became an observer member of the United Nations and a full member of the Arab League, the Nonaligned Movement, the ICO, and some other important international organizations such as UNESCO.

When I say the Palestinian revolution derives strength from the Arab nation and that this nation has given it a great deal, it does not mean our standing with the Islamic nation is not strong, because it is, and we are proud of that. [passage omitted]

I recall the attitudes of some world states to confirm what I say about the Arab nation's support for the Palestinian revolution. In 1986, Japan adopted an excellent position when it recognized our right to self-determination and to a Palestinian state. Greece, Spain, and Austria fully recognize Palestinian rights. I consider the position taken by the EEC and the European Parliament on the camps war to be an extremely important step, because they spoke of the serious aggression against the Palestinian camps in Lebanon and mentioned the Amal militia and the Syrian special

forces by name. Furthermore, the EEC states have decided to deal with the West Bank and Gaza directly, which means dealing with the Palestinian people without going through the Israeli occupation authorities. [passage omitted]

Noticing that Abu 'Ammar had stopped talking after this brilliant analysis, I said: But you have not told us whether the Islamic summit conference is still at risk, or whether you share our opinion that the Islamic summit conference, if held, will be the conference of the victims of aggression?

He replied: Yes, it is the summit of the victims of aggression. It is the summit of the Palestinian victims, the Lebanese victims, and the Gulf victims, who are threatened and more than threatened daily, though less than Iraq, which also is a victim of aggression. The summit must be held despite all the threats and attempts to obstruct it. The Palestinian revolution and all the victims of aggression and those likely to become targets of aggression were surprised by Pakistan's call for a change of venue. My answer at this point, and before any contacts or consultations on the matter, is that if the call for a change of the summit venue is made on the grounds that Kuwait is close to the battlefield, I maintain that all the Gulf states are neighboring states and so are Turkey and Pakistan itself. The proximity excuse is not convincing. In fact, it is a point for and not against us [holding the conference in Kuwait]. [passage omitted]

I said: Is it conceivable that neither the Arabs nor their international friends can do anything to stop the camps war?

He replied: I will save you the trouble of trying to be more specific. I tell you that Saudi Arabia has made and is still making considerable efforts and the Soviet Union has done much, but this is a major plot, perhaps the biggest plot against the Arab nation. It is the biggest and most dangerous. True, the instruments of the plot are local, but the plot itself is international, and the aim is to create an alternative Palestinian homeland and to fragment Lebanon into cantons. [passage omitted]

I said: Is it fair to say that some opportunities have been missed in the search for a reasonable solution to the Palestinian problem, the most important being the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement?

He replied: It would be a disaster if you did not know and a greater disaster if you did know. We hear that opportunities have been missed because Yasir 'Arafat did not recognize Resolution 242. If that is the case then what is preventing Jordan, which recognizes Resolution 242, from regaining the West Bank? What is preventing Egypt from regaining Gaza? What is preventing Syria from regaining the Golan Heights? I am not one of those dazzled by the U.S. policy, and I am not one to be deceived by words. I say that I have not received an offer of a just settlement and rejected it. What is offered is surrender. After Egypt's exit [from the Arab fold] through Camp David, what is continuously on offer is surrender, something we cannot possibly accept. [passage omitted]

## OPEC Fund's Chief Reviews 1986 Aid Performance

*LD211535 Kuwait KUNA in English 0803 GMT*
*21 Jan 87*

[By F. H. Baer]

[Text] Vienna, Jan 21 (KUNA) — The perspective of development aid given by the 13 member countries of OPEC, the 'Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries', depends entirely on the pattern of their revenue, the director general of the OPEC Fund told KUNA in Vienna this week.

'When OPEC was able to sell 30 million barrels a day at 30 U.S. dollars a barrel it was different to contribute to development aid from what the OPEC countries can do now, selling only half that volume at half the former price', Dr Y. Seyyed Abdulai, the director general of the OPEC Fund for International Development told KUNA in an exclusive briefing.

'OPEC's situation is not much better off in the near future even when selling some 16 million barrels at 18 dollars a barrel' he said.

Addressing KUNA at the fund's premises in down-town Vienna, Dr Abdulai said 'I think in many respects we were pleased to what happened in 1986 even if 1986 was a very bad year in many developing countries. The fund, as the assistance-granting entity founded and funded by OPEC in 1976, was able to do as well in the number of operations as we did in 1985. For instance, we did 26 project [loans] and one balance-of-payment support loan and 24 grants but the total value was only 90.1 million dollars, which is lower than we were ready to handle'.

That the OPEC fund would have been willing and able to commit more funds than it did is easily explained by the parallel experiences of other concessionary-aid providing institutions: Many developing countries are now going through structural programs and this means that there is some limitation in clearly defined projects of programs. The OPEC fund does not go in for supporting structural change because of the avoidance of setting conditions to recipient countries.

'The OPEC countries have consciously decided not to get themselves involved in imposing conditions on the recipient. Our mission is to render the small help we can to other developing countries without getting into the situation of telling them to devaluate, or stop subsidizing or get into any kind of policy issue. This restraint, and our very strict pre-lending investigations kept us from fully spending the 120 million dollars or so we had programmed'.

The OPEC fund had begun its seventh bi-annual lending program at the beginning of 1986 and has about 250 million dollars to allocate to project or program loans, balance-of-payment support loans and grants. Abdulai feels that 'so if we are able to do more this year we are glad to do it because we have the money. As for 1987, I hope that we will be able to do better in terms of amounts committed'.

If the OPEC fund's planned activities did not fully come off [it] is in part due to changed circumstances in recipient areas. For example the fund wanted to do more in Asia in 1986. 'We did less in Asia than we could have done because of the deep-reaching changes in some of the Asian countries which made project or program loans for them not a matter of top priority. But we were about on target in Africa and Latin America. In fact we did two projects in Columbia and Peru, in each country for the first time. Perhaps in 1987 we could do more in Asia, perhaps in India or in Laos'.

There are several factors greatly influencing the rendering of assistance to the developing countries. Among them is the need to put a project or program on a concrete footing in the country concerned and pass it through the local political or government levels to ascertain its common interest. Then there is some difficulty in articulation of projects. This is one factor most of the assistance-giving institutions face'.

So much is certain that of the 26 projects signed last year the far greater part was in public health, in education and in small-scale farming. On the latter point we have come to realize it is better not to send trucks for the distribution of emergency food rations; the preference is to have the needy people produce their own food. But even here are special factors at work: Often the population growth has surpassed all expectations and has outpaced the people's capability to produce food'.

One major area of aid in the field of agriculture is the fund's role as founder-member of 'IFAD', the International Fund for Agricultural Development' headquartered in Rome. Last December a newly established advisory group of ten — including Dr Abdulai — drew up recommendations on measures designed not only to keep 'IFAD' alive but also put it on a more prominent basis. What is required at IFAD is more realism, mainly on the part of the industrialized countries. These countries are either short or late or both when it comes to replenishing IFAD's operating fund.

Many of the big nations of the world pay much less into IFAD than do middle-sized OPEC member countries. What the OPEC fund presses for is a reappraisal of the membership grouping in IFAD so as to adjust national revenues to their true standing in the world economic community. IFAD has just completed its second replenishment. It turns out that following the United States of America (80 million dollars) the second-biggest donor is Saudi Arabia (77). Kuwait is fourth largest — and ahead of Japan, West Germany, France or Great Britain.

As an effort to provide access for the low-income developing countries to the 'common fund for commodities', the OPEC fund had advanced 83.6 million U.S. dollars as grants. The idea was to enable these countries to use their own wealth and eventually finance their own development. OPEC fought very hard to realize the idea and paid for the first and second account. 'All that is needed now is that the countries belonging to the bloc of industrialized countries and the 'CMEA' group of communist countries come forth, sign and put the common fund into effect'.

With regard to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the OPEC fund works jointly to a limited degree, for 'we do not want to sit down with other development institutions and tell to appli-

cant countries how they should handle their currency, or ask them to do or not to do specific things,' Dr Abdulai said.

Summarizing the OPEC fund in 1986, the fund's director general told KUNA 2,028 million U.S. dollars had been committed up to the end of 1986 in form of 419 loans; roughly 75 percent has been disbursed. In addition, 189 grants have been cumulatively extended, valued at 207 million dollars, as well as 971.9 million dollars which are contributions to other international institutions.

The OPEC fund's total commitments at the end of 1986 stood at 3,207 million dollars. At a rate of 77.4 percent, total disbursements to date are 2,482 million dollars.

## BAHRAIN

### Tunisian Foreign Minister Arrives for Talks

*JN190845 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0745 GMT 19 Jan 87*

[Text] Manama, 19 Jan (WAKH) — Tunisian Foreign Minister Hedi Mabrouk arrived in Manama from Abu Dhabi today on a 2-day visit to Bahrain within a tour of several regional states. During the visit, Mabrouk will talk with Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak al Khalifah, foreign minister, on bilateral relations, ways to strengthen them, current Gulf, Arab, and international issues, and issues of common interest. The talks will also deal with topics on the agenda of the fifth Islamic summit conference to be held in Kuwait 26 January.

### Meets Amir, Prime Minister

*JN191433 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1250 GMT 19 Jan 87*

[Text] Manama, 19 Jan (WAKH) — Tunisian Foreign Minister Hedi Mabrouk said he reviewed with Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, and Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman al Khalifah, the Bahraini prime minister, relations between Bahrain and Tunisia and Arab issues of interest to the two countries.

In a statement today, Mabrouk said he sensed the sentiments of love and appreciation which the amir of Bahrain and the Bahraini prime minister feel for Tunisia, its president, government, and people. He paid tribute to the relations between the two countries, saying they are firm and ideal. He added he held talks with Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak al Khalifah during which they reviewed political issues, particularly those of interest to the Arab world, and current regional developments.

The Tunisian foreign minister said he exchanged views with his Bahraini counterpart on the agenda of the Islamic summit scheduled to be held in Kuwait 26 January. He said Bahrain and Tunisia coordinated their stands on the agenda topics of the fifth Islamic summit to ensure its success and so resolutions that serve the goals of the Arab nation and its just causes can be adopted.

## KUWAIT

### Al-Jabir Welcomes Al-Qadhdhafi Gulf War Initiative

*LD212230 Kuwait KUNA in English 2058 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 21 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir tonight welcomed a statement by Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi appealing to Iraq and Iran to stop the war.

Shaykh Sabah expressed appreciation for the Libyan appeal and said the move truly reflects the honest Islamic feelings and the desire to stem the saved Moslem blood. [as received]

In a statement to KUNA, Shaykh Sabah said he favored the invitation extended by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to both Iraq and Iran to follow reason and prudence and embark on ending this destructive war.

Shaykh Sabah said such an invitation represents as well the sincerity of backing the endeavors to put an end to this tragic war.

Shaykh Sabah expressed that collective efforts will be exerted for the sake of restoring security and stability to the entire Arab world to enable the Islamic nation "to confront the challenges and dangers that face us."

### Shell Hits Faylakah Island 21 Jan; No Damage

*LD212153 Kuwait KUNA in English 2022 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 21 (KUNA) — An official source at the Defense Ministry said Wednesday night that a shell landed on an uninhabited area of Faylakah Island earlier this evening but caused no material damage or casualties.

The source added that competent authorities are currently investigating the incident.

### Council of Ministers Welcomes ICO Participants

*LD211219 Kuwait KUNA in English 1101 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 21 (KUNA) — The Council of Ministers, following an ordinary session, Wednesday expressed warm welcome of guests of H.H. the amir and looked forward with optimism to the fifth Islamic summit, opening in Kuwait on Monday.

Sitting under Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah, the cabinet underscored the special importance of the historic event, in view of the delicate and serious stage passed by the Moslem nation, and wished Moslem leaders success in shouldering these immense tasks and realizing their peoples' aspirations.

A statement issued following the session, expressed the council's "warm welcome of the guests of H.H. the amir" and voiced optimism on the fifth Islamic summit, meeting on Kuwait's territory.

"The historic gathering," the statement said, "derives its special importance from the delicate and serious stage passed by the Moslem nation, reflecting the immense tasks and responsibilities of leaders of Islamic countries the world over and in keeping to God's word on pan-Islamic unity".

The cabinet statement wished Moslem leaders success in reaching positive results commensurate with existent challenges in the area and in line with Islamic principles and spirit such as to enhance unity of the Moslem nation.

It also hoped for restored dignity of the Islamic nation and attainment of security and stability in the area for the common good of all the human race.

## OMAN

### Minister Leaves for Preliminary ICO Meeting

*JN211519 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] His Excellency Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, left the country for fraternal Kuwait this afternoon at the head of the Sultanate's delegation to the preliminary ICO ministerial meetings, which will prepare for the ICO summit to be held in Kuwait 26 January.

'Abdallah made a statement emphasizing the preparatory conference will discuss the most important issues facing the Islamic world, foremost of which are the Iraq-Iran war, the Middle East conflict, and the Afghanistan issue. He added: We will do our best to cooperate with our brothers to secure a consensus on the policies and methods to be adopted by the Islamic countries in their handling of these issues in the interests of the Islamic countries. The minister expressed the hope that the conference would result in decisions and recommendations aimed at resolving these issues.

The minister was seen off by Haytham ibn Tariq Al Sa'id, Foreign Ministry under secretary for political affairs, the Kuwaiti ambassador to the Sultanate, and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

## PDRY

### Maltese President Concludes Talks, Departs

*EA212216 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] Agatha Barbara, president of the Republic of Malta, left Aden at noon today following a 3-day official visit to our country, during which she met a number of party and state officials. The official party, which saw her off at Aden International Airport, was headed by Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, Political Bureau member and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and included party and state officials and heads of diplomatic missions accredited to Aden.

In a press statement, Barbara expressed delight at the visit, which she described as successful and as serving to promote cooperation between the two friendly countries. She praised the achievements of the people of Democratic Yemen in numerous spheres. She also expressed gratitude for the friendly and hospitable reception accorded her.

Official discussions between the delegations of the two countries, headed by Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas and Agatha Barbara, ended this morning.

Brother al-'Attas expressed his happiness at the visit by Agatha Barbara and the delegation accompanying her, which, he said, had strengthened their friendship and common understanding. He pointed out that it had contributed to developing cooperation between the two friendly countries. He stressed our country's desire to deepen and develop relations in various economic and cultural fields likely to serve the common interests of the two friendly countries and peoples.

For her part, Barbara expressed deep gratitude and happiness for the visit, pointing out it had afforded her an opportunity to be briefed on the ongoing development process in our country. She stressed the Republic of Malta would endeavor to develop spheres of cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas and Agatha Barbara attended a ceremony this morning for the signing of a long-term trade agreement between the governments of the two countries. The agreement comprises lists of agricultural commodities and industrial and consumer products in Democratic Yemen and the Republic of Malta and provides for their export between the two friendly countries. This represents the first agreement between the governments of the two countries on the exchange of products and the possibility of promoting bilateral trade exchanges and economic cooperation. [passage omitted]

## SAUDI ARABIA

### Al-Faysal, Delegation Leave for ICO Meeting

*LD211426 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1435 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Riyadh, 21 Jan (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs, left Riyadh today for Kuwait at the head of the Kingdom's delegation to the preparatory meeting of the Islamic foreign ministers, which is due to begin its proceedings tomorrow, Thursday, in preparation for the Fifth ICO Summit.

The Kingdom's delegation to the preparatory meeting of the Islamic foreign ministers includes the Kingdom's ambassador to Kuwait, 'Abdallah al-Sudayri; the director general of his highness's office, Ambassador Hasan al-Shuwwaf; the director of the Islamic Section at the Foreign Ministry, Muhammad al-Fa'iz; and the chief supervisor of the Economic Section at the Foreign Ministry, Ambassador Ma'mun Kurdi.

The delegation also includes a number of senior officials of the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Finance, and the Ministry of National Economy.

### AL-ITTIHAD on Importance of Nazir's USSR Visit

*LD221023 Kuwait KUNA in English 0807 GMT 22 Jan 87*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Jan 22 (KUNA) — A Soviet official was quoted by a UAE leading paper Thursday as saying the visit by

Saudi minister of oil and mineral resources to Moscow will lead to important results on Soviet-Saudi diplomatic relations.

Daily *Al-Ittihad*, published here today, in a dispatch from Moscow said that Soviet deputy foreign minister, whom it did not name, has said Hisham Nazir's visit to the Soviet Union will lead to great outcome in the advantage of the two countries' diplomatic relations.

Saudi Arabia has announced that restoring diplomatic relations with the Kremlin is conditional on Soviet troops' withdrawal from Afghanistan.

However, the Government of the Soviet Union started withdrawing from Afghanistan.

The Soviet official affirmed, in his statement, that relations between the two countries are "good" and diplomatic relations could be resumed any moment and at the appropriate time.

Nazir, who concludes Thursday an official visit to Moscow, discussed the oil situation and the Afghanistan crisis with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov.

The Saudi official is on a 3-nation tour, including Egypt, the Soviet Union and Norway, main oil producers outside OPEC.

**Crown Prince 'Abdallah Returns Home**
*LD212342 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2116 GMT*
*21 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 21 Jan (SPA) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, first deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, arrived with God's care at 2200 today at King Khalid International Airport from abroad. [passage omitted]

## UAE

**Tunisian Foreign Minister Arrives 17 Jan**
*JN171125 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0800 GMT*
*17 Jan 87*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 JAN (WAKH) — Tunisia's Foreign Minister Hedi Mabrouk arrived in Abu Dhabi on a visit to the UAE as part of a Gulf tour. He was welcomed at the airport by Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, and the Tunisian ambassador.

Mabrouk said he was carrying a letter from President Bourguiba to UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nahayyan. Praising bilateral relations, he said there is close cooperation between Tunisia and the UAE and noted UAE developmental assistance to his country.

His visit to the UAE is to exchange views and discuss Arab and international political developments, Mabrouk said. He pointed out that President Bourguiba had asked Prime Minister Rachid Sfar to attend the upcoming Islamic summit and that Tunisia hopes the conference will ease the present painful circumstances in the Muslim world.

**Talks With 'Abdallah**
*JN171215 Doha QNA in Arabic 1145 GMT*
*17 Jan 87*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 Jan (QNA) — Official talks between the UAE delegation led by Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, and the Tunisian side led by Foreign Minister Hedi Mabrouk, began here at noon today. Foreign Ministry sources here said the talks focused on exchanging opinions on political issues in the Arab, Islamic, and international arenas as well as on issues to be discussed by the Islamic summit conference to be held in Kuwait on 26 January. They also discussed bilateral relations and ways to promote them in various fields in light of the UAE's continuous support for Tunisian development plans.

The Tunisian minister is expected to meet later today with His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, UAE heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the UAE Armed Forces, and His Highness Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad, deputy prime minister.

## YAR

**Al-Iryani Receives Cypriot Finance Minister**
*JN211402 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1200 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign affairs minister, and member of the Standing Committee, received Khristos Mavrellis, finance minister of the Republic of Cyprus, today. During the meeting, the Cypriot finance minister handed the foreign affairs minister a message from Cypriot President Spiros Kiprianou to Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress. They also discussed bilateral relations.

## AL-ANBA' Interviews Mubarak on Summit, U.S.

*JN211039 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 19 Jan 87*
*pp 14, 15*

[Interview with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak by Kuwaiti *Al-Anba'* Chief Editor Faysal Yusuf al-Marzuq in Cairo on 18 January]

[Text][Al-Marzuq] Mr President, as you prepare for the Islamic summit conference in Kuwait, we would like to ask Your Excellency on the best way to conduct an Islamic summit conference to achieve Islamic and Arab expectations and hopes?

[Mubarak] A successful Islamic summit must include some developments even in Islamic thought. Islam must be the single basis governing us and, therefore, everything must stem from Islam. Shedding blood does not stem from Islam. Fighting in this way is not allowed in Islam. Exhausting resources, harboring hatred and rancor, instigating division among people, and making unjustified threats do not stem from Islam. Therefore, we call for making this conference succeed. If we all go to the conference with goodwill with a rational, realistic, and logial spirit and reach equal understanding on the topics on the agenda of the conference, no victor or vanquished, then we can emerge with an excellent result from this conference.

[Al-Marzuq] Should this conference fail, God forbid, will this mean the end of the ICO?

[Mubarak] I do not think so. Many international conferences failed in the past. However, this did not mean the end of the organizations taking part. Failure does not mean the end of the road. We must continue our endeavors.

[Al-Marzuq] Even if Iran does not attend this conference, especially because the Iraq-Iran war is at the top of the agenda, and Iran has officially announced it will not attend?

[Mubarak] I had hoped Iran would not have decided not attend the conference. However, Iran did not attend the Islamic conference in Morocco. From this premise, the failure of an ICO member to attend the conference does not necessarily mean the failure of the conference. When I speak about Arab unity I also speak about Islamic unity. Islam does not call on us to be divided but urges Muslims to unify their ranks. If a country refuses to attend this conference, all the other countries should unite and seek ways to convince that country to attend and reconcile Iraq and Iran. We must not tire of this — we must continue to exert efforts to reconcile the two countries. There will be no result without these efforts.

[Al-Marzuq] In your message to Kuwaiti Amir His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah early November, Your Excellency said the security of Kuwait and the Gulf is part of the security of Egypt and the Arab nation, and you stand alongside Kuwait to protect it against any aggression. What is the practical interpretation of this in the Egyptian concept? Does this mean military intervention if Kuwait or any Gulf state were the target of a foreign aggression?

[Mubarak] We support our brothers in the Gulf states in various fields. However, the newspapers are not the arena in which to subject our understanding to public opinion. We do not want to reveal everything we discuss with our brothers in the Arab Gulf through the media. However, the channels for dialogue with our brothers are open and they know we support their just causes.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, does what you have said about the Gulf states apply to Iraq? It is well-known Iraq has superiority in military equipment but lacks manpower. Is there any coordination between Your Excellency and President Saddam Husayn on sending regular Egyptian forces to help their brothers, especially because Egypt has the largest population among the Arab countries?

[Mubarak] Despite the lack of diplomatic relations between Iraq and Egypt, coordination is continuing. However, as the president of Egypt I do not have the power to send regular Egyptian forces because this requires the people's approval expressed through their constitutional channels. Even if approval for sending Egyptian troops from Egypt was obtained, it would not be easy from a practical point of view because the dispatch of such forces requires preparations. The question that must be asked is: Is sending regular Egyptian troops to the battlefront the only solution to resolve the conflict between Iran and Iraq? Let us assume Iraq and Egypt agreed on sending regular Egyptian forces to the area. What will be the developments in the region as a result of sending such forces? What will be the position of the big powers on such escalation, especially since Egypt's military intervention in this war cannot be taken lightly and the impact of such intervention by Egyptian forces on all the Gulf states must be accurately assessed.

[Al-Marzuq] Your Excellency, what are the developments in Syrian-Egyptian relations, particularly in light of the contacts held between Dr Usamah al-Baz and Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'?

[Mubarak] No contacts were held between Syria and Egypt. I do not know where these reports came from and on such a level. However, we in Egypt do not close the door to any contact. Our relations with Syria were not too bad in the past.

[Al-Marzuq] What we want to know, Mr President, is the true Syrian stand toward all Arab issues.

[Mubarak] Those who follows developments in the Arab arena can discern the Syrian stand. I will not open fire, especially because I am going to Kuwait to attend the Islamic summit. I will not be the first to open fire at the Islamic summit's meetings unless I am forced to do so to defend my country's people who elected me as president. I will not keep silent about any attack seeking to discredit Egypt's legitimacy at this conference. I will not talk against anyone unless I am forced to do so. As Arab countries, I hope we will not begin recriminations at this Islamic summit.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, do you expect the convocation of an Arab summit on the sidelines of the Islamic summit conference?

[Mubarak] I am not a member of the Arab League.

[Al-Marzuq] But, Mr President, Egypt is the heart of the Arab nation.

[Mubarak] We have not received an invitation to attend such a meeting. However, my morals and Arab values make it incumbent upon me to meet with my brother Arab kings and presidents from fraternal Arab countries. I want to emphasize no Arab regime or ruler can prevent bonds from developing among the Arab people. The best proof of this is the cohesion among the Syrian and Egyptian peoples. Whether we like or not, there is no force in the world which can prevent contacts among Arab peoples.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, I am an ordinary Arab citizen and although you are one of the leaders of this nation, I bitterly say the Arab nation's distress lies in its leaders.

[Mubarak] I agree with you. However, this does not apply to all Arab leaders but to some of them.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, who are those?

[Mubarak] The ordinary Arab citizen is the best judge of who these leaders are, especially since viewpoints vary concerning these matters.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, in your comprehensive address to the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council, you said feverish fighting in Lebanon among brothers is taking place in the service of suspect foreign sides. Who are these sides and why don't Arabs stand against them?

[Mubarak] I am going to the Islamic summit conference. Perhaps I will succeed in removing differences among Islamic countries. Had I wanted to say who these suspect foreign sides are, I would have mentioned this in my speech before the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council. Although I am convinced these suspect sides know themselves well, I will not be the first to level accusations.

[Al-Marzuq] Egypt was the first to welcome the Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochement. There are distinguished relations between the PLO and Egypt. However, some claim the PLO is being pressured by Egypt to recognize UN Resolution No 242. How true is this?

[Mubarak] We neither pressure anyone nor influence the will of anyone, but we do want to bring the parties to the negotiating table. The Palestine question cannot be solved except through negotiations. If you go back to history you find no war has ever ended a conflict. A conflict can only be solved through negotiations. An example of this is the United States — with its greatness — could not end its war with Vietnam, a small country — except at the negotiating table in Paris. I do not think there is a more eloquent example. Military operations or military intervention may keep an issue in motion but solving it can only be achieved at the negotiating table.

We want to sit at the negotiating table to solve the Palestine question. I do not think such negotiations would be easy, but they are the starting point in a long journey. All we want from sitting at the negotiating table is to find a equation to recognize Security Council Resolutions No 338 and 242. Let each side point out its reservations about the provisions of the two resolutions so we can come out with a formula acceptable to all parties. We in Egypt want a just solution to the Palestine question. I believe the later the Arabs sit down at the negotiating table, the more they will lose.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, following Shamir's assumption of power, strong voices were heard in Israel rejecting the concept of an international conference to solve the Palestine question, upon which you reached agreement with former Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres in Alexandria. Can this rejection disrupt the Middle East peace process? What steps is Egypt taking toward such a rejection?

[Mubarak] It was Shim'on Peres who talked to me about an international conference and declared he agrees on such a conference. I declared this agreement with his approval. Agreement with him was not reached with Shim'on Peres as a person, but as prime minister of Israel and man of the state. I believe this commits Israel. If Shamir, the current Israeli prime minister, wants to go back on this commitment, this will be another subject which will make us pause and think. I have announced this before. I do not think there is disagreement with Shamir over an international conference. Nevertheless, they will place obstacles in its way. An example of these obstacles is their rejection of the Soviet Union's representation at the conference.

Regrettably, we Arabs are assisting them in this regard by our differences. We negotiate with Israel within the Camp David formula, within the treaty, and within the second Camp David framework to solve all aspects of the Palestine question, although the name of the second Camp David framework will make some unleash a news media campaign against me. Our brothers who are attacking us are weakening our negotiating position. This leads Israel to say: If the owners of the land — the Palestinians — do not accept this and attack our efforts, why should we — Israel — give up land? They changed the meaning of Camp David and said autonomy applies to people and not land. During the Camp David negotiations Egypt was attacked [by some Arabs] and not a single hard word was voiced against Israel.

[Al-Marzuq] Because Egypt is Arab and an enemy of Israel?

[Mubarak] They curse Egypt and say nothing against Israel. This weakens my negotiating position. Of course, what Israel says is: How and why should I give you the land as long as they do not want [negotiations]?

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, since the beginning of the negotiations in Camp David among President Jimmy Carter, President al-Sadat, and Menachem Begin, Israel has continued and is still continuing to establish settlements. You said you will adopt a clear stand toward the settlement issue. Israel continues to establish settlements despite the fact the most important clause in the Camp David accords stipulated the nonestablishment of any new settlements. What is our stand on this as Arab states?

[Mubarak] There were no clauses in the Camp David accords on new settlements, but there were letters which were exchanged between Carter and Begin stopping the establishment of settlements. However, they went around this to expand old settlements. As far as I know there is a conflict in Israel among those who oppose and those who support the establishment of new settlements. The question is: What have we Arabs done while they are building settlements? The clear answer to this is we attack and abuse each other. Has anyone tried to abuse Israel? Some Arabs who abuse Israel hold secret contacts with it.

[Al-Marzuq] Who are they, Mr President?

[Mubarak] No, it is enough for you to know this. However, I tell you frankly I will say it during the Islamic summit if I am forced to do so, and I will say it according to the information and data I have. I have everything. At any rate, as I said before, I will not be the first to begin this, and if I am attacked, I have the right to defend myself.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, let us go back to the Iraq-Iran war. There was an Egyptian initiative to end this war. What happened to this initiative?

[Mubarak] The Iranians rejected it and attacked us. They also rejected the reconciliation efforts made by all parties. We will not stop trying. We will continue our efforts, hold a dialogue with several parties, and remain active in other fields.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, what is your opinion of the U.S. role in this war?

[Mubarak] It is very regrettable, I told them this and I told them they have lost their credibility, not only in the Arab region but throughout the world.

[Al-Marzuq] How can one side be given weapons and the other side information?

[Mubarak] This is a tragedy. I analyzed this and I was amazed. One side being given weapons and the other information! I do not know what they want. Do they want the war to continue?

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, are the Egyptian prisoners in Iran from the regular Egyptian Army or are they volunteers, and what is Egypt doing to secure their release?

[Mubarak] No member of the regular Egyptian Armed Forces is fighting in Iraq or in any other place outside Egypt. I, as a president, cannot send regular forces to any place outside Egypt without consulting the constitutional institutions in Egypt. The Egyptian prisoners in Iran are ordinary citizens who went to Iraq either to earn a living or to volunteer in the fighting on the side of their Iraqi brothers. The Egyptian Constitution cannot prevent citizens from travelling to any place in the world. We are trying to secure the release of our imprisoned sons in Iran through various legal means. We hope Iran will resort to reason.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, let us go back to Egypt's domestic problems, particularly the economic problems. Egypt's debts have reached $40 billion. How can Egypt overcome this impasse?

[Mubarak] Look around you and you will find the whole world is indebted, and Egypt's debts are less than $40 billion. What actually exhausts us are the military debts and their huge interest. According to previous agreements, the U.S. military debts have reached $4.5 billion with $14 billion interest, and this is what annoys us. If the debts are rescheduled to be paid in the year 2014, they will reach $23 billion. This is impossible. The talks with the United States have not yet reached a point of agreement. I hope we will reach this point soon. During my presidential term, Egypt has not obtained any military loans. Everything we receive is a grant. The miliitary loans from which Egypt is now suffering were negotiated between 1978 and 1981. In general, Egypt is capable of repaying its debts through hard work and production efforts, God willing.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, I don't know of any country in the world having more than one price for its currency other than Egypt. Why?

[Mubarak] This situation existed when I came to power. A solution to this problem cannot be achieved overnight and takes time. Otherwise, prices will greatly increase and the Egyptian citizen will not be able to pay them. Is it logical for me to raise the price of the dollar to 190 piasters, as is the case in the free markets? This would mean raising the price of commodities threefold. It is important to affect a gradual change. We increased the price from 80 to 134 piasters. We need more time to raise it further.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, is Egypt's problem greater than those of Brazil, Argentina, Mexico? The population of some of these countries is sometimes double that of Egypt. Yet, they have managed to achieve solutions to their economic problems. I do not believe Egypt under your leadership is incapable of solving its economic difficulties.

[Mubarak] Brazil has its own political, social, and geographical circumstances. Argentina also has its own political, social, and geographical circumstances and traditions which completely differ from those of Egypt. I cannot say the Egyptian has a similar style of work, life, food, attire, or job opportunities. Egypt differs greatly from Brazil or Argentina. However, I can say we are not unable to achieve a solution. We have come a long way, and our situation would have been a great deal worse if we had not done so much. We have achieved a great deal with regard to agricultural reforms, but we need to do more. Economic reforms cannot be implemented overnight. We have modified a large number of prices within the framework of economic reforms,and we are moving confidently to achieve an increase in production.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, will the laws of investment in Egypt be revised as part of the economic reforms? When I come to Egypt to invest as an Arab citizen, I find so much bureaucracy it pains me and forces me to invest in Europe instead of Egypt.

[Mubarak] You speak about bureaucracy and routine as though they only exist in Egypt. As far as investment is concerned, we have come a long way in removing and eliminating obstacles. In fact, there are still some obstacles which will disappear through practice. If this was not the case, the Egyptian would not have invested his money in Egypt. You must visit the city of 10

Ramadan. You will find the majority of investors are Egyptians. Actually, they faced some difficulties, but we helped them overcome many obstacles. We do not want investors to come and make profits without us benefitting also.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, when we invest abroad we know there are laws, regulations, and legislations governing everything — even the profit rates. However, the contradicting laws in Egypt frighten investors from investing. Your Excellency knowsthat capital is easily fightened and scared away.

[Mubarak] I can assure you the laws have become well established and clear. The investor can obtain an investment license within a week without any obstacles. Moreover, we have divided the fields of investment into specific sectors: the tourism, agriculture, and industry sectors. We have evidence in the new cities such as the Al-Sadat, 10 Ramadan, 6 October, and 15 May cities which will encourage all serious investors.

[Al-Marzuq] Mr President, experience throughout the world, especially in the developed world, has shown the public sector has failed. This happened in England and France. Why do you insist on the public sector in Egypt despite all that has been said about its failure?

[Mubarak] The public sector is a mainstay for the economy, and I will not relinquish it. I do not involve the public sector in all projects. The public sector enters strategic projects concerning citizens with limited income. However, the public sector is excluded from small industries and projects. Other than this, the public sector will remain. For example, I will not sell the Al-Mahallah al-Kubra, the iron and steel factory, or the Kafr al-Dawwar factories. The public sector's factories are currently being developed and modernized, and the performance of management in these factories is being improved. However, the public sector will not be involved in projects not concerning it whether they are hospitals, hotels or others. The public sector will continue to exist. I do not want Egypt to become a state where any individual or group of individuals can control its destiny and that of its people. Egypt must have production that works in favor of the poorer citizen.

## Helicopter Hijacked to Larnaca Airport

*NC211612 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1531 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — Two West Germans, one a pilot and the other an aviation engineer, today carried out a sudden and strange operation. They hijacked a helicopter belonging to the Egyptian company (Bell Air Egypt), which provides aviation services to the petroleum companies operating in Egypt.

The two Germans, who work for the company, landed the plane at Larnaca Airport in Cyprus after taking advantage of its forced landing at Abur Rudays Airport in Sinai for a technical fault. They hijacked the helicopter after its Egyptian crew had left in preparation to repair the fault. The helicopter was on its way from Al-Ghurdaqah to Imbabah Airport. The company owning the helicopter has asked the authorities at Larnaca Airport to hold the helicopter and detain the hijackers.

The motives which prompted the two West Germans to hijack the helicopter belonging to (Bell Air Egypt), which employs them,are not yet known.

Egyptian air observation officers at Cairo Airport received preliminary information on the hijacking of the helicopter immediately upon its forced landing in Abu Rudays Airport for techical reasons. The helicopter was on its way to Imbabah Airport in the outskirts of Cairo from Al-Ghurdaqah Airport on the Red Sea.

The air observation officers at Cairo Airport immediately sent cables to all neighboring international airports asking them to supply any information they might have about the helicopter, the destination of which was not known. Larnaca Airport sent a cable to Cairo Airport at 1614 this afternoon, Cairo time, saying the helicopter had landed at Larnaca Airport.

## Financial Dispute Motive

*NC211754 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1742 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — A MENA correspondent has learned there are financial reasons behind the strange hijacking of a helicopter belonging to the (Bell Air Egypt) company by two West German nationals employed by the company.

The correspondent has learned there is a financial dispute between the company and the two Germans, a pilot and a flight engineer.

## Craft Owned by FRG

*NC211955 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1930 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — An official source at the Ministry of Petroleum has stated that a helicopter owned by a private German company and leased to a petroleum company until 17 January, which was en route to Imbabah, was hijacked by two West Germans to Larnaca Airport in Cyprus. The source said the helicopter is not the property of the petroleum sector or its companies. The Ministry of Petroleum has taken every measure to protect the financial rights of the private FRG firm, in accordance with the contract concluded between the ministry and the company, the source said.

**Saddam Husayn Addresses Iranian People**

*JN211400 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1205 GMT 21 Jan 87*

["Text" of letter from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to the Iranian people — read by announcer; date not given]

[Text] Once again from Saddam Husayn to the Iranian peoples who are afflicted by charlatan Khomeyni and his henchmen:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Say: O God! Lord of power and rule, thou givest power to whom thou pleasest, and thou strippest off power from who thou pleasest: Thou endowest with honor whom thou pleasest, and thou bringest low whom thou pleasest: In thy hand is all good. Verily, over all things thou hast power. [Koranic verse]

I have read Khomeyni's message to you in which he calls for help and appeals to you — as if overridden by the devil — for more men whom he can throw into the crematorium of death. As is his usual habit in charlatanism and jugglery, he covers his wicked intentions with a curtain of allegations which he believes would deceive the Iranian people. Thus, he warns you that your failure to respond to these sinister calls and your disregard of them will lead to the defeat of Islam and to the everlasting disgrace of people. He also warns you against giving way to humiliation. In his message, he believes Islam will be defeated and that the Iranians will suffer disgrace and humiliation after it has become unequivocally clear to him that his evil ambitions have foundered on the battlefronts, and that his henchmen who believed his sinister call have all died because God has supported us by upholding the truth and defeating falsehood.

In harmony with our human concepts, we are dutybound to thank Almighty God. Our duty in this regard is to enlighten the Iranian people and remind them of facts. In order to be brief, I will concentrate on discussing Khomeyni's message. The discussion begins by asking Khomeyni the following question: You say Islam is threatened. Who is threatening Islam? Are the Iraqis atheists or are they carriers of the banner and glories of Islam in the past and present and the ones who had the credit of spreading Islam in Iran? Are the rulers of Iraq not its sons? Are they not Muslims? Are the Iraqis not the ones defending Iraq and aren't those who were blinded by Khomeyni's hostile calls the ones attacking Iraq?

Your read and hear what Khomeyni and his henchmen say and you know they gathered tens of thousands of Iranians a year ago and raised the banner of military decisiveness during what remained of the year that ends on 21 March 1987. According to their concept, the banner of decisiveness means destroying Iraq and humiliating and enslaving its people. The Khomeyniites boasted that they have prepared a million or parts of a million for the crematorium of death. In fact, they prepared 200,000 to 250,000, in addition to the Army and guards forces. World Zionism and imperialism provided them with what they thought was the road for the victory of falsehood over truth.

Nevertheless, God has championed right over wrong, and [the forces of] wrong were defeated on our international border facing steadfast and victorious Basra. Now, you must ask Khomeyni and his aides: You have attacked the Iraqis with a force you have been preparing for more than a year and God has not granted you victory. Why then are you persisting and why do you not ask God to intercede and reconsider your policy of aggression, listen to reason, and opt for the path of peace?

If all those many thousands were crushed and destroyed by the Iraqis defending their homeland, how then can you imagine that a force of tens of thousands, or even hundreds of thousands, who lack training and equipment and whose cause is not right, can achieve for you the ambitions which the others were unable to achieve?

By this God wants his judgment on earth to be clear; that Muslim and peaceful Iraq was the victim of aggression and was placed against its will in the face of a destiny that was bound to lead to humiliation if it did not fight. Iraq did not call for the occupation of Iran or for a change in the customs, traditions, regime, life, or march of the Iranians. It is Khomeyni and his aides who have done this. Khomeyni and his aides want to obliterate [the identity of] the Iraqis and change their religion. "In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Say O unbelievers, I do not worship what you worship; and you will not worship what I worship; nor will I worship what you have worshipped; nor will you worship what I worship. You have your religion and I have my religion." [Koranic verses]

Yes, Khomeyni wants to change the religion of Muslims including that of the Iraqis. The religion whose ideas Khomeyni advocates is not an Islamic religion. The knowing believers of Iran itself are now saying this. We have been informed of this and we have read about it. How can it be then, when this is the situation of Khomeyni's religion in Iran, that the Iraqis do not reject it, especially as the intention is for that religion to enter their territory after it is desecrated by foreign occupation?

Therefore, the disgrace which Khomeyni is warning you about, O Iranian peoples, is not harbored by the Iraqis against you nor do they intend to inflict it on you because they are defending their territory and sanctities and do not want to violate your territory and sanctities.

However, if the aggression of Khomeyni and his aides should continue, disgrace will twice befall those who respond to his call: Once because it is impossible for Khomeyni to fulfill his sick dreams of aggression against Iraq, and again because the aggression is aimed against a Muslim country that has been Muslim for a long time. It thus becomes clear to every reasonable person that further aggression against Iraq and sending additional tens of thousands to the crematorium of death will only result in further disgrace and certain defeat, God willing.

Duty requires you to ask Khomeyni and his aides: Where are the 250,000 whom you sent to the front of the heroic VII, II, and III Army Corps, and what have they achieved so that you ask us to send more volunteers?

The road to an honorable and peaceful life and the road to the victory of Islam and the safeguarding of dignity and honor is the path of accepting peace on the following bases:

1. The complete and unconditional withdrawal to internationally recognized borders.

2. The comprehensive and complete exchange of POW's.

3. The signing of an agreement of peace and nonaggression between the two countries.

4. Noninterference in internal affairs and each country's respect of the other country's choices.

5. That Iran and Iraq be a positive element in a manner achieving stability and security in the region, particularly the Gulf region.

Otherwise, there is no road except that of death, disgrace, and abject defeat for those who dare attack our territory.

God is great. May the lowly be defeated.

## Further Reports, Communique on Fighting

### Spokesman Denies Planes Downed

*JN211623 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan (INA) — Iraq has denied Iranian claims on the downing of Iraqi fighter planes today. In a statement to INA a short while ago, a military spokesman said all the Iraqi fighter planes returned to their bases after attacking the Iranian forces in the areas of operations. The spokesman challenged the Iranian rulers to present any evidence of these claims.

### Communique No 2,537

*JN211816 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Communique No 2,537 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 21 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious forces continued their glorious defense of Iraq, staving off the evils of aggression from our great people. The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. The brave men of the Al-Miqdad Forces and the forces incorporated within them and all the forces of the heroic III Army Corps are setting a magnificent example in steadfastness and in challenging the enemy and inflicting painful losses on him, losses that are shaking his entity and destroying what remains of his war machine. At various times last night the defeated enemy attempted to attack our heroic forces south of the Al-Asmak Lake. Our forces bravely confronted such attempts and foiled them in record time, inflicting on the aggressors very heavy casualties, dead or wounded, and capturing a number of enemy personnel, while the remainder fled.

Our victorious forces, men of the artillery, mortars, armor, and infantry are turning the ground into fire underneath the aggressors. Our victorious forces are continuing their combat activities in this sector with unique courage, great capability, and overwhelming superiority over the enemies.

2. Our mighty Air Force continues to punish the enemies of Iraq, destroying their remnants, striking at their positions, artillery, equipment, bridges, and concentrations, smashing their equipment and weapons, spreading terror in the hearts of the leaders of the rotten regime, showering their dens with bombs of death and destruction, demonstrably cutting off their evil tongues, and exposing their weakness in the face of the overwhelming strength of this ancient country in 370 combat missions.

Furthermore, in response to the policy of aggression and the persistence, in continuing the war and to wreak vengeance on the enemies for shelling Basra and Al-Sulaymaniyah, our aircraft, which turn edifices into rubble, returned to carry out the following heroic missions:

A. At 0430, our aircraft carried out a violent raid on Qom.

B. At the same time our aircraft were pounding Hamadan.

C. At the same time other aircraft were striking at Dezful.

D. At the same time our aircraft were dealing destructive blows to Esfahan.

E. At 1315 today, our aircraft attacked two oil pumping stations in the Bagh-e Malek and Tang-e Fanni oilfields.

F. At 1245 today, our aircraft dealt a destructive blow to Ilam.

G. At 1400 today, our aircraft pounded Ilam for the second time.

H. At 1500 today, our aircraft bombed Nehavand.

I. At 1530 today, 16 aircraft dealt a devastating strike to Kermanshah [Bakhtaran].

J. At 1615, our aircraft pounded Qom for the second time today.

K. At the same time, other aircraft launched a devastating strike on Pol-e Dokhtar.

L. In the heroic strikes and support operations they carried out today, our daring pilots destroyed 20 enemy gun emplacements, 107 caravan trailers used for military purposes, and 202 vehicles, some of which were carrying men and equipment. After carrying out all their missions, the bold pilots returned to the homeland safely and victoriously with their aircraft, protected by God. Peace, O outstanding men of our heroic Air Force. Your enemy — as a result of your heavy blows and the strikes of our ground forces — is now forced to call for help, and the call for help is made by his arch-charlatan, and that is a source of pride for you, O noble men.

3. The heroic VII Army Corps, thanks to the efforts of its fighters, is providing strong support to our valiant forces of the heroic III Army Corps as they repulse the forces of aggression. Our heroic men in our VII Army Corps greatly contributed to

the harvest of the scoundrel Khomeyniites with their constant fire, day and night. At the same time, the heroes of the VII Army Corps achieved the following:

A. They tackled an enemy force estimated at 400 men, annihilating most of it.

B. They destroyed 36 enemy scoundrels elsewhere.

C. They destroyed 13 ammunition dumps, 8 vehicles, 3 shovels, and 2 machineguns.

Blessed be the daring men of our VII Army Corps, its command, officers, and men. More strikes, O heroes, to eradicate the terrified and defeated scoundrels of aggression.

4. The heroic II Army Corps, which has scored glorious victories, is daily achieving feats in which it scores a victory against the enemies of God and mankind and demonstrates the outstanding ability of the Iraqi fighter to defeat the enemies. Our men in the II Army Corps have achieved the following:

A. An enemy unit estimated at 500 men attempted to advance toward our positions. The brave men of the artillery and mortar units engaged them and wiped out most of the unit, while the remaining force fled.

b. In another part of the same sector, an enemy platoon was engaged. Most of it was wiped out while the survivors fled.

C. In various parts of the same sector enemy units estimated at 75 men were sighted. Our men annihilated most of them.

Blessed be our heroic II Army Corps, its command, officers, and men.

5. The helicopter pilots dominate the skies over the battlefield, and with the courage for which the men of Iraq are known, are providing our ground forces with capable support and punishing the enemies of the homeland. The brave helicopter pilots today carried out 196 combat missions during which they destroyed numerous enemy concentrations. They destroyed five tanks, one armored personnel carrier, six vehicles carrying personnel, and four ammunition dumps. They returned with their helicopters safely to base protected by God.

God bless you, O noble knights, for what you have contributed and are contributing to the homeland and to the protection of its territory and honor.

6. The criminal enemy last night and today shelled the valiant city of Basra with long-range artillery. The enemy bombardment killed 6 civilians and wounded 15 others. The criminal enemy also destroyed the district of Halabjah with long-range artillery. The enemy bombardment wounded two civilians. Mercy and forgiveness to our martyrs, and a speedy recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 January 1987.

**5 Iranian Cities Raided**

*JN220950 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0939 GMT 22 Jan 87*

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 22 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To exercise our inalienable and legitimate right to retaliate against the Iranian regime's aggression on our border and its shelling of our cities, the heroic Air Force has carried out the following missions:

1. At 2300 last night, our aircraft launched a devastating raid on Qom.

2. At the same time other aircraft launched a violent raid on Dezful.

3. At the same time other aircraft attacked Esfahan.

4. At the same time our aircraft launched a devastating raid on Tabriz.

5. At 0900, our aircraft launched a devastating raid on Borujerd.

After carrying out their missions all aircraft returned to base safely and victorious, praise be to God.

[Dated] 22 January 1987

**4 More Cities Raided**

*JN221313 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1243 GMT 22 Jan 87*

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 22 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The soundrel Khomeyniites will realize that they are too insignificant to challenge the proud edifice built by the Iraqis. They and their allies will realize that freedom, zeal, and defense of sovereignty were born and nurtured in this great country and that lofty ideals prevail in the thinking and conduct of the Iraqi citizen. The criminals will realize that the principles governing Iraq's march are protected by a mighty force which no one can confront. Total destruction of vital enemy installations will continue. To prove all this and to retaliate for the enemy's crimes of shelling residential areas, our mighty Air Force today carried out the following missions, in addition to the missions mentioned in our statement issued this morning:

1. At 1050 today, a violent air strike was dealt to Pol-e Dokhtar.

2. At the same time our aircraft were violently pounding their targets in Khorramabad.

3. At 1130, our aircraft launched a devastating air raid on Malayer.

4. At the same time our aircraft were pounding the Shahabad [Eslamabad] fuel station.

5. At 0900, our aircraft launched a devastating raid on the large and very important bridge which lies in the (Seyah Hashe) area south of Khorramabad.

Our pilots, leaving the areas with explosions rocking them and columns of smoke billowing from them, returned with their aircraft to the homeland safely and victorious, protected by God.

[Dated] 22 January 1987

**Al-Masri Leaves for ICO Meetings in Kuwait**
*JN212008 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri left Amman for Kuwait tonight to participate in the meetings of the foreign ministers of the Islamic states, which will begin tomorrow in preparation for the fifth Islamic summit conference which will begin Monday.

**Al-Rifa'i Briefs Cabinet on King's European Trip**
*JN201932 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Jan 87*

[Text] Amman — The Council of Ministers held a session under Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i this evening. The prime minister acquainted the Council of Ministers with the results of His Majesty King Husayn's successful visits to France, Italy, and the Vatican. The prime minister explained to the council that senior officials in these countries had voiced complete understanding of the Jordanian position and their countries' support for the Jordanian development plan in the occupied Arab territories.

**King Husayn on Mideast Peace Prospects**
*PM211650 Rome L'ESPRESSO in Italian 18 Jan 86 pp 36-40*

[Interview with Jordan's King Husayn by Antonio Gambino; date, place not given]

[Excerpt] [Introductory passage omitted] "There is something," Husayn told me, "that has not changed, despite what happened in February; namely, the fact that we still recognize the PLO as a very important institution in the peace process in this region and we maintain that the Palestinians should choose their own representatives. We therefore still consider valid — as do the Palestinians, for that matter — the February 1985 accord, as regards the joint effort with the United States to achieve the convening of an international conference. The point is, however, that at the crucial moment the PLO leadership was unable to say exactly whether it accepted Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 — even though there was an accord between us on this and these resolutions are the only documents that could have enabled us to hold such a conference. Thus our political coordination has ended, though we have not stopped working to this end. I am convinced that if an international conference on the Middle East is organized, the issue of Palestinian representation will not be an obstacle."

[Gambino] This is probably so. It seems to me, however, that there is an obstacle in the formulation of the two UN resolutions, because they refer to the Palestinians solely as refugees, without mentioning their national rights. I believe it is this silence that prevents 'Arafat from officially recognizing these documents, rather than unofficially, as he has done several times.

[Husayn] There certainly is a problem. This is why we talk about a peace solution "based" on resolutions 242 and 338. Indeed it is clear that the basic inspiration behind these resolutions lies in the equation "territory equals peace." It is equally clear that nobody can imaging a lasting peace is possible in this region without taking account of the Palestinians' legitimate rights.

[Gambino] Why, then, has there never been the diplomatic initiative long talked about — that of modifying resolutions 242 and 338 to include an explicit reference to the Palestinians' national rights? The French and Egyptians have on several occasions seemed ready to submit a draft amendment of this kind but it has all come to nothing — perhaps because, as some suggest, the Americans, under pressure from the Israelis, threatened to use their veto. In the present deadlock would it not be worth reconsidering this possibility?

[Husayn] I cannot talk about others' motivations. What I can tell you, however, is that we Jordanians have always been aware of the danger of such an initiative. In our opinion, resolutions 242 and 338, which are the only documents on this subject unanimously approved by the Security Council, do indeed constitute the starting point for any future negotiations. To question them, even if only in one aspect, could mean destroying them. That is not taking a step forward but a very serious step backward. Furthermore it is futile to conceal the fact that there is also a refugee problem, which must also be broached within the context of a general peace plan. This is one of the problems that we have tried to start resolving in our bilateral talks with the Palestinians. Other fundamental issues were the recovery of the occupied territories and the development of a federation. Our intention was to reach on all these issues absolutely clear stances capable of eliminating any possibility of mutual suspicion. To tackle such issues, which directly affect both Jordanians and Palestinians and all Arabs as well, it was first necessary, however, to regain the lost rights and territories and to achieve peace.

[Gambino] Unless I am mistaken, your position was that the accord with Jordan and with the Arab world as a whole should have provided the Palestinians with the guarantees concerning their future that they did not find immediately in the literal structure of Resolutions 242 and 338.

[Husayn] Yes, we were convinced that a favorable response to the PLO with one of the UN resolutions would have opened the way to considerable progress in all areas. [Husayn ends]

To give a specific illustration of what he meant by this statement, the Jordanian king cited an episode during the final phase (January 1986) of his negotiations with 'Arafat, when the PLO leader asked for everyone (first and foremost the United States) to make it clear that the creation of the "federation" in no way affected the Palestinians' right to self-determination. "Our response," Husayn said, "was that this was a matter that could very well be tackled and resolved in the best possible way by an agreement between us and that there was no need to ask Reagan to participate in it."

[Gambino] But perhaps the basic factor was that 'Arafat believed the Americans untrustworthy. You are certainly also aware that even the most moderate Palestinians have often wondered whether Washington's insistence on the PLO's prior and unconditional approval of Resolutions 242 and 338 was not a trap. In view of the special relations between the United States and Israel,

do you not believe that this suspicion had some foundation?

[Husayn] I can only say that the positions we succeeded in having the Americans adopt in the last days of the discussions embodied much more than was ever expected not only by us but by the Palestinians, too: In exchange for a statement by 'Arafat accepting Resolutions 242 and 338 and relinquishing violence and terrorism, the Americans would have lifted their veto on convening an international conference to which the PLO would be officially invited as part of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and would in fact immediately have begun direct negotiations with the PLO on all aspects of the Middle East dispute.

[Gambino] Were the Americans really prepared to do this, thus defying the opposition of the Israeli leadership, all factions of which had always declared their opposition to any contact with the PLO, even after its possible future recognition of the Israeli state's right to existence?

[Husayn] In the final phase of our negotiations this position was confirmed to me in writing by Washington.

[Gambino] Be that as it may, the plan to initiate the peace process in the Middle East failed in February, albeit only just. What can be done now? Nobody seems to have many ideas or much hope.

[Husayn] It is precisely this general feeling of discouragement that should provide the impetus for finding a way to do something. If we look beyond the immediate present to the next 2-3 years we see that the future seems gloomy for everyone — not just for us Arabs but for Israel, too. Indeed, what options do the Israelis have? To annex the occupied territories, granting the Palestinians full political rights — as they should do on the basis not only of their constitution but also of their tradition as a people who have suffered as a result of having been kept so long in the position of second class citizens — entails the risk of forcing them to come to terms at the beginning of the next century with a mostly Arab population. But if they try at least partly to evacuate the territories they want to annex by driving the Palestinians from their homes, they will expose themselves to the danger of another incalculable explosion of violence.

[Gambino] You talked about this possibility when we met before. That was in May 1982 and I remember your telling me you foresaw something new and bad in the near future, though you could not say exactly what it would be — and indeed 3 weeks later there was the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. You also told me that sooner or later Israel would try to remove part of the Arab population from the occupied territories. Has the situation remained unchanged?

[Husayn] I do not consider such an initiative imminent. But in view of demographic factors it remains an objective possibility. That is, unless the process of decline is not halted by a peace agreement.

[Gambino] Is the reference which you made a few minutes ago to the next 2 or 3 years as the period in which a negotiation process can be revived a reference to the end of Reagan's presidency? Do you think America's recent loss of credibility means it is no longer capable of taking a serious diplomatic initiative in this region?

[Husayn] There is no doubt that the U.S. position in this region, and probably throughout the world, has deteriorated in recent months. In addition, I think that even before this happened Washington did not have a realistic policy in the Middle East. But I was not referring to that when I spoke of the next 2 or 3 years, partly because I believe that the events of the past few weeks might persuade the U.S. Administration to follow a different course — to seriously revive an initiative to bring peace between the Arabs and Israelis to regain its credibility.

[Gambino] Leaving aside a comprehensive settlement, there is something which can be done, if only on a limited scale. For instance, in recent months there has been talk of separating the West Bank problem from that of the Gaza Strip, which could be given a kind of limited administrative autonomy under Egyptian or Egyptian-Israeli control. What is your opinion of this?

[Husayn] I think that the occupied territories form a single entity which cannot be divided, partly because we are talking about one population and because their present situation of occupation stems from the same disaster — the 1967 war. Any solution to this problem must therefore be comprehensive.

[Gambino] Another subject which has been widely discussed in recent months is the Jordanian plan for a 5-year investment plan totaling almost $1.5 billion for the occupied territories. Verdicts on the plan have also differed because some maintain this will be an indirect way of helping the Israelis maintain the status quo.

[Husayn] I do not think that this assessment is justified, primarily because our initiative is not new, given that the idea of support for the population of the occupied territories has been discussed and approved by all the Arab summits and also formed part of our agreement with the PLO. The aim now is simply to coordinate and step up action to help whole communities rather than individuals, providing them with better infrastructures in some essential sectors, such as health, education, and communications. We must prevent the Palestinians in the occupied areas from falling into a state of desperation which might lead to social chaos and exodus.

[Gambino] Do you reject the theory that this development plan is the sign of a growing trend by Jordan and Israel to establish a kind of "condominium" over the occupied territories?

[Husayn] Yes, totally: This is a misinterpretation of our intentions.

[Gambino] Do you think the "Jordanian option" — in other words a solution negotiated exclusively between Amman and Tel Aviv — about which the Israeli leaders often talk, exists or could ever exist?

[Husayn] We have repeatedly stated that the Palestinians must solve their problem their own way. We will certainly not try to act for them or speak for them.

[Gambino] In the minds of many Israelis and Americans, the

"Jordanian option" always had a specific content; namely, the return to the Amman government of the most populous part of the West Bank while leaving a large strip of land on the east and on the west in Israeli hands, for military purposes. Jordan would not be given back the whole territory but the duty to control its population.

[Husayn] That is true. This is precisely why there is now less talk about the "Jordanian option."

[Gambino] Let us turn to your visit to Paris and Rome. This visit is taking place at a time when Western Europe seems to have abandoned the possibility of playing an active part in settling the Arab-Israeli conflict. Do you think this attitude might change in the near future?

[Husayn] I hope so. In my meetings I will try to stress that our futures are inextricably linked. Other regions of the world can be indifferent to what happens in the Middle East; Europe cannot. For this reason, I cannot sit back and watch the deterioration of a situation which might ultimately lead to a common disaster.

## SAWT AL-SHA'B: U.S., Israel 'Feeding' Gulf War

*JN201040 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 20 Jan 87, pp 1, 16*

[Editorial: "Basra: The Agressors Will Not Pass"]

[Text] The full range of the reckless Iranian strategy is taking its course, with children and adolescents being sent to certain death in this raging war. The Iraqis continue to burn the Iranian fingers reaching out toward the Arabian Gulf and prevent them from laying a hand on Arab land. The eastern flank continues to be a front that can never be weakened or undermined. The Arabs thus have full confidence in the Iraqis, who have sworn in the name of a heritage that goes back 1,500 years to defend this front.

The repercussions of the war will dominate the ICO summit to be held in several days time, because Iran has been turning a deaf ear to the Iraqi, Arab, and international peace initiatives, and aggravating and igniting new fires in the war.

This Iranian aggression makes it imperative for the Arabs, who are affected by the fire raging at their main fortified flank, to do something tangible and effect a move that is parallel to the ICO summit and at the same time utilizes this summit.

Basra is an arduous test that the aggressors will not pass. Basra has also become the shield which protects the Arabs, after the fighters have directed their efforts to defend it with unprecedented valor.

The international community continues to play the role of unconcerned spectator in the bloody drama being staged in the Gulf and to look at killing as something normal which one becomes accustomed to. The world is rocked by the taking of a hostage or the killing of an individual but does not lift a finger when thousands of Iraqi children are killed in Basra. The Iraqis are discovering that they are alone in battle, and are doing their best to preserve the fruits of their victories, achieved at high cost.

It has become very clear that the raging war in the Gulf is being fed by Western imperialist quarters, led by the United States and its proxy, Israel. The statements made by Taha Yasin Ramadan, the Iraqi RCC member and deputy prime minister, that the United States supplied Iraq with misleading information prior to the Iranian offensive against Al-Faw last year, have exposed a serious fact.

Iraq and the Arab nation are now aware that its own potentials are the key factors in their encounters with their enemies. They are also convinced that the United States, which has misled many forces in this world and caused them to make mistakes and errors, now stands exposed after it lost its credibility before and after the disclosures of the U.S. arms deals to Iran became known.

The continuation of the Iraq-Iran war serves U.S. interests, which lie in the continued bleeding of this region, enabling it to tame the region, wear it out, secure its continued submission, and blackmail it in service of the Zionist scheme and the U.S. interests contained in that scheme.

Let the summit be the summit of steadfast Basra and let all Arab efforts be exerted for the sake of the convocation of that summit, because the masks of many people have fallen.

## AL-RA'Y Ponders Mubarak's Accusation of Arabs

*JN201110 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 20 Jan 87 p 1*

[Editorial: "Why, Mr President?"]

[Text] It is strange that President Mubarak blames the Palestinians and accuses them of wasting many opportunities for settling their cause. It is also strange that he warns the Arabs against delay in coming to the negotiating table, and says that unless they do so their losses will increase. It is as though they are responsible for hampering the peace process in the region and for the losses inflicted on them.

It is useful for the Egyptian president to recall or to allow us to remind him that since 1948, the Palestinians have never deviated from Arab consensus. Perhaps President Mubarak remembers that since the July revolution in 1952 until the [1967 Arab-Israeli war] setback, Egyptian policy urged that what has been taken by force cannot be regained except by force. Maybe he also knows that liberation must extend to the sea, that the decision of war in 1967 was not a Palestinian decision, that the Khartoum summit's noes after the setback were not Palestinian noes but Arab ones, and that the rejection of the Camp David formula was not only a Palestinian rejection but was also, and still is, a comprehensive Arab rejection. So, what opportunities have the Palestinians wasted, and is it fair and wise to accuse them of doing so?

It is also useful for President Mubarak to recall, and let us recall with him, that the international conference is the formula on which the Arabs were unanimous, and that the United States and Israel are the ones which prevent the convocation of this conference and attempt to set preconditions on the Palestinians who would participate in the peace process if it is destined to begin! Has this conference been convened Mr President, and did the

Arabs refuse to negotiate under its umbrella? Otherwise what negotiating table you are warning the Arabs against delay in sitting at?

The Arabs, Mr President, have never hesitated to sincerely call for a just and comprehensive peace in the region. Undoubtedly, you still recall that the Arab peace plan approved at the Fes summit is effective.

Those who do not want negotiations to begin under the umbrella of an international conference are the Israelis, who are hostile to the Egyptian people and who fight them with the weapon of narcotics, and the Americans, who do not want Egypt to progress economically and who insist on exhausting it by charging huge interest on its military debts. Those are the sides which do not want to sit at a negotiating table under the umbrella of an international conference, Mr President.

Mr President, we say sincerely that Jordan will not sit at a negotiating table outside the conference, that Camp David will not pass in the region, that the Palestinians do not deserve blame and accusations, and that there is no pan-Arab or Egyptian national interest in insinuating that the Arabs hesitate to join the peace march. With all sincerity we say: Why do you open old wounds now, Mr President, why?

### FRG Nationals Evacuated to East Beirut

*LD220922 Hamburg DPA in German 0839 GMT 22 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] Beirut, 22 Jan (DPA) — More than 200 Federal German citizens were evacuated from the Muslim western part of Beirut into the Christian eastern part of the city during Wednesday night/Thursday morning. As security circles announced, the decision to evacuate the Germans was taken after a second federal citizen had probably been abducted in Lebanon.

According to the information, the Germans were taken across the demarcation line into East Beirut amid a strong show of force from the security forces. The operation was completed within half an hour. A French ship is apparently cruising off the Lebanese coast and is expected in the port of Juniyah during the day to take off the evacuees, according to security circles. [passage omitted]

### Hizballah Denies Kidnappings

*NC220546 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 22 Jan 87*

[Text] According to an AFP report, an anonymous person telephoned a Lebanese paper yesterday on behalf of Hizballah and denied any involvement in the kidnapping of foreigners in Lebanon, particularly the abduction of West German citizen Rudolf Cordes.

In its statement, Hizballah expressed astonishment at the allegations made by security officials in Bonn with regard to its involvement in that kidnapping operation. The statement adds: Hizballah rejects such provocative acts as these which level accusations against specific people and issue hasty judgments. We hold Bonn responsible for any measures that might provoke the oppressed people of Lebanon, people who are fighting U.S. terrorism in the world, the statement concludes.

### Delegation, Officials in Separate Talks in Syria

*JN211559 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] In a new and surprising development, the Lebanese presidential delegation returned to Damascus this morning to resume the fifth round of official Syrian-Lebanese talks after it was announced the talks would be postponed until after the Islamic summit in Kuwait in which, it has been confirmed, President Hafiz al-Asad personally will participate.

The Lebanese working delegation includes Dr Elie Salim, Colonel Simon Qassis, adviser Nicola Nasr, and Eng Hani Salam. They were welcomed upon arrival by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. the first session of the fifth round of talks has begun.

After meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil and the Army commander yesterday, Dr Elie Salim announced that the Syrian-Lebanese talks are being held in a positive and objective atmosphere required by the current delicate stage and the mutual desire to reach constant solutions to the Lebanese crisis. He said Syria seeks to bring viewpoints closer together to achieve a Lebanese accord that Damascus is eager for to help end the Lebanese crisis, especially because Syria is mediating to achieve this.

Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt last night in the presence of Minister Faruq al-Shar'. Following the 2-hour meeting, Minister Birri told our radio the discussion had dealt with the subject of inter-Lebanese accord and [word indistinct] in West Beirut. Birri added that it had been agreed to hold a meeting today with Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an to discuss the subject of Syria's forces consolidating security in West Beirut. Birri added that contacts were held with the concerned leaders in West Beirut to open the mountain and coastal roads today.

Ministers Birri and Junblatt held a meeting earlier during which it was agreed that the roads needed to be reopened. Minister Junblatt declined to make any statement.

Meanwhile, Lebanese Interior Minister Dr 'Abdallah al- Rasi arrived in Damascus this morning leading a strong delegation that includes Major General 'Uthman 'Uthman, commander of the internal security forces; Samih al-Sulh, director general of the Interior Ministry; Rashid Shuqayr, head of the public service [as heard]; Brigadier General Nadim Musays, general inspector of the internal security forces; and Colonel Mihkail Sam'an, chief of staff of the Lebanese interior security forces. They were welcomed by Syrian Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash, his aides, and the directors of the Syrian Interior Ministry departments.

Minister 'Abdallah al-Rasi made a statement on his first official visit to Damascus as interior minister. He said the visit is in response to an invitation by his Syrian counterpart. He said: I feel it necessary to coordinate and cooperate with sisterly Syria in all spheres of security at this stage in particular as we are confronting a joint enemy. Minister al-Rasi added: I feel it necessary to coordinate security in normal cases, never mind now!

On this occasion, Dr al-Rasi added: I would like to voice my thanks and gratitude to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, all his aides, and every Syrian official, man of religion, and security man now working to maintain security in Lebanon. Al-Rasi said: This is not to mention His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad's good offices and efforts to reach a Lebanese political accord to entrench Lebanese national unity without which Lebanon cannot exist. Al-Rasi added: I faithfully say that Hafiz al-Asad — history is his witness — is the man who opposed Lebanon's partition and will, God willing, achieve Lebanon's unity — both in terms of land and people.

Answering a question, Minister al-Rasi said: No doubt we will discuss all security and political issues. Within the coordination, we will discuss renewed support by Syria for the regular Lebanese security forces.

Talks between the Syrian and Lebanese security sides began at the Syrian Interior Ministry conference hall.

Lebanese Information Minister Joseph Skaf has been in Damascus since yesterday morning continuing contacts and consultations. A number of senior Syrian officials, including the ministers of foreign affairs, interior, information, and defense, as well as Vice President Khaddam, have received the Lebanese minister. Minister Skaff told our radio that his talks in Damascus are comprehensive and deal with all issues in the Lebanese arena.

In another development, President Hafiz al-Asad received George Hawi, head of the Lebanese Communist Party, along with the members of the party's Political Bureau, today.

### Interior Minister Returns

*NC211909 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Interior Minister 'Abdallah al-Rasi returned to Beirut this evening from Damascus. While he was there he met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Syrian Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash also attended the meeting. The discussions dealt with the current Lebanese situation.

### Skaf Returns From Talks

*NC212036 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] Information Minister Joseph Skaf returned to Beirut this evening following a 2-day visit to Damascus. While there he met with a number of Syrian officials and acquainted himself with the results of the ongoing efforts to arrange a Lebanese-Syrian summit. He noted that this summit will be held after the obstacles in the current talks have been overcome.

Skaf had lunch at Minister Nabih Birri's residence in Damascus today. Eng Hani Salam also was present. They discussed the current situation in Lebanon, particularly the question of an accord that would take the rights of all Lebanese sects into account. [passage omitted]

### Lebanese Forces on Summit, Smar Jubayl

*NC201900 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 20 Jan 87*

[Text] The Lebanese Forces Command Council held its weekly meeting under the chairmanship of Dr Samir Ja'Ja' today. After discussing the issues on its agenda, it issued the following statement:

1. The Lebanese Forces Command Council reviewed the political and security developments of the past week, particularly the current negotiations in Damascus in preparation for the Lebanese-Syrian summit, and the Smar Jubayl meeting. These developments coincided with Syria's military entry into Khaldah Airport and the assassination attempt against Eng Mustafa Sa'd. The Lebanese Forces, while denouncing the Syrian military intervention at Khaldah Airport and the attempt to assassinate Mustafa Sa'd, maintain that all of the incidents concocted in West Beirut and along the coastal road are complementary, and serve the objective of providing justification for an increased Syrian military presence in these areas. The method employed by Syria in its current negotiations with Lebanon no longer deceives anyone. Syria's true goals are not the attainment of a solution to the Lebanese crisis but the success of a political tactic designed to impose a new de facto military and political situation on the Lebanese negotiator and to obstruct any Arab role in the resolution of the Lebanese crisis, so as to keep the Lebanese issue solely in Syrian hands; it is also seeking to waste time, in the hope that a situation more favorable to Damascus will develop. The Lebanese Forces believe Syria's measures in West Beirut, the repeated incidents that occur there and along the coastal road, and the attempt to assassinate former President Camille Sham'un are designed to ensure the failure of the anticipated Lebanese-Syrian summit. The Lebanese Forces therefore renew their demand that the Syrian Army withdraw from Lebanon as the proper first step toward any Lebanese settlement.

2. As for the measures applied by the Syrian forces at Khaldah Airport and in its vicinity, the Lebanese Forces wish to declare the following:

a. The direct Syrian military control of Khaldah Airport does not solve the airport's problem; it further complicates it. In consequence, Lebanese citizens of all sects are reluctant to use Khaldah Airport for travel, as they are aware that the presence of Syrian forces there reflects instability and offers no reassurance to a large number of Lebanese people. It is also worth recalling that the airport used to be within the sphere of Syrian influence, and that no positive changes resulted.

b. Syria's action is part of an obvious attempt to pressure the national airline, the Middle East Airlines, and to prevent it from acting as a national company that serves all Lebanese people and areas, rendering it a sectarian company restricted to certain areas, instead.

c. The Lebanese Forces maintain that Syria's measures at Khaldah constitute an overt confiscation of this airport for use in the pursuit of special Syrian purposes. Consequently, we must strenuously emphasize that Halat Airport and other airports must be opened to air traffic. We base this view on our sympathy with the daily difficulties faced by the residents of the free Lebanese areas and northern Lebanon, and on our recognition that the public interest must be served and the national economy revitalized.

3. The Lebanese Forces view the Smar Jubayl meeting and its initial results with satisfaction, and declare their support for this meeting, which acted to cement the Christian Lebanese ranks and to emphasize the comprehensive and collective Christian agreement on the prerequisites to the proposed solutions of the Lebanese issue.

## Factions Reject Syrian Airport 'Occupation'

*NC211619 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] The Lebanese Forces yesterday reiterated their call for the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon. They stated that the steps taken by Syria in West Beirut, recurring incidents on the Coastal Road, and the attempt to assassinate former Preident Camille Sham'un were aimed at undermining the anticipated Lebanese-Syrian summit.

The Forces added that all fabricated incidents in the western sector and the attempt to assassinate Mustafa Sa'd [Nasirite Popular Organization secretary general] were formulated to create excuses to increase Syrian military presence in these areas, to sabotage any Arab role in resolving the Lebanese crisis, and to again confine discussion of the Lebanese problem to Damascus.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese Front has expressed surprise at the Syrian Army's entry into West Beirut, at a time when the Lebanese are calling for its withdrawal. The Front said the strangest thing is this entry was carried out at the request of some ministers.

National Liberal Party leader Eng Dany Sham'un has said the Syrian forces' entry into West Beirut is illegal and illegitimate. He asserted it will have no security consequences but increases the number of saboteurs. He added: We reject their arrival, because it was carried out illegally; we shall not retreat from our stand.

In addition, the Guards of the Cedar Party has warned of the precedent set by the occupation of Beirut Airport [by the Syrains]. It noted that all current and future ministers could use such an excuse to seek the entry of those foreign forces that suit their political objectives.

## Amal-PSP Statement on Ties, Coastal Road

*NC211537 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] The coastal road to the south and the mountains was reopened at 1300 today. A joint Amal Movement-PSP force was deployed to take over security in the area. This measure followed an expanded meeting at the office of Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri in Barbur. The meeting was attended by Amal Movement and PSP political and security leaders. The following statement was released after the meeting:

The discussions took place in an extremely friendly atmosphere. The conferees agreed to normalize the situation and to further consolidate the Amal-PSP alliance. They agreed to reopen the coastal road. Akram Shuhayyib, Dr Muhammad Baydun, Al-Haj 'Atif 'Awn, and Ahmad al-B'albaki proceeded to Khaldah to join PSP leader Walid Junblatt in supervising the reopening of the coastal and other roads to all citizens. Understandingwas reached on every issue and on tackling security problems to get the situation in Beirut back to normal. Both sides agreed to deal with the aftermath of the painful incidents.

A delegation of Amal Movement and PSP leaders went to the American University Hospital to visit PSP security official Abu Haytham and other injured people. Agreement was reached to hold meetings in subsidiary offices of the Amal Movement and the PSP as part of the coordination between the two movements. The agreement coincided with rumors that Abu Haytham had died, which prompted gunmen to appear in Al-Hamra' Street and adjacent areas. In the wake of the rumor, shops were closed and people kept off the streets. The rumor soon turned out to be false.

A PSP security official denied a radio report that Abu Haytham, who was the victim of an incident on the Al-Awza'i road last Sunday, had died. He declared that this report is totally groundless. He said the dissemination of such rumors is designed to stir up trouble and cause tension, as must be made clear to all citizens.

**Al-Asad, Libya's Jallud Discuss Arab Situation**
*LD212355 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad today received Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud. During the meeting they discussed the current Arab situation and issues of mutual interest to the two fraternal countries.

**Khaddam, Ghabbash Meet Lebanese Minister**
*JN212046 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Lebanese Interior Minister Dr 'Abdallah al-Rasi at 1700 today. Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash attended the meeting. The talks dealt with the current situation in Lebanon.

A round of official talks between the Syrian Interior Ministry delegation headed by Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash and the Lebanese delegation headed by 'Abdallah al-Rasi began this morning. At the beginning of the session, Ghabbash emphasized the importance of the two countries' relations in various areas, especially in the security field. The Syrian minister indicated this meeting could be considered a new basis and motive for developing bilateral relations in the interests of our two peoples and our Arab nation. He also emphasized the Syrian Arab Republic's stand under struggler President Hafiz al-Asad on unifying the Lebanese people and restoring security and stability to Lebanon.

For his part, Dr 'Abdallah al-Rasi expressed his appreciation and thanks to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and to the Syrian Arab Republic — government, people, and army — for their good efforts to reach a Lebanese political accord that achieves national unity. He added: On this occasion, I can say that Arab history will one day record that struggler President Hafiz al-Asad was the only man who stood against the partitioning of Lebanon and who always sought to achieve the unity of Lebanese land and people. These facts, he aded, will be kept in our minds and in the minds of the generations that follow us.

Dr al-Rasi, accompanied by Muhammad Ghabbash, paid visits to the Police College and to Damascus Governorate Police Headquarters this afternoon. Members of the Syrian and Lebanese Interior Ministry delegations and a number of high-ranking internal security force officers accompanied the ministers on the visits.

**Al-Asad Receives Lebanese Communist Delegation**
*JN211528 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Damascus, 21 Jan (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad received the Lebanese Communist Party delegation headed by Secretary General George Hawi, here today.

The meeting was attended by Karim Muruwwah, Nadim 'Abd al-Samad, George Batal, Illyas 'Atallah, and Faruq Dahruj, members of the Lebanese Communist Party Political Bureau.

The talks dealt with the situation in Lebanon and the efforts to place this fraternal country on the road to national accord.

**Arabs Reject Egypt With Camp David 'Chains'**
*JN211509 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Syria has never argued with the Egyptian Arab people, with whom we are united in fate, affiliation, militant objectives, and the common battles of liberation embodying those objectives, particularly the glorious October war. We never called for isolating or besieging the Egyptian people. We always worked for strengthening pan-Arab ties, and we struggled with them for this. This fact is firm in our pan-Arab understanding and embodied in our actions because the Egyptian people are a strength for the Arabs and their just causes.

Since the first day of Al-Sadat's treason, the Egyptian Arab people have rejected the course of capitulation and defeat. They fiercely resist the Camp David policy, which has shackled them with the chains of subservience and of Zionist-imperialist hegemony, encroached on their national decisionmaking, and overshadowed the militant achievements of their modern history. In the same way we strongly support the Egyptian Arab people, who are fighting for their freedom, with the same strength with which we confront the course of the Egyptian regime, which concluded a peace treaty with the Zionist enemy — a deal stemming from the Camp David accords. The Camp David accords made the Egyptian regime favor its commitments to Israel over any Arab commitments and made it deal with the Palestine question as an issue of refugees, not an issue of a people with the right to establish their independent state on their national soil. The Camp David accords only give the Palestinian people the self-rule that legitimizes Israeli occupation of Arab territory. Therefore, what links us with the Egyptian people is the unity of aim and destiny. What keeps us away from Camp David is that the Camp David accords mean submission to the Zionist enemy and to the U.S. monopoly over the region. Therefore, Syria rejects all attempts to confuse the stand of the Egyptian Arab people with that of the regime associated with Camp David. For this reason also, the Arabs refuse to accept the Egyptian regime's return to them wearing Camp David chains because this return would be a violation of the Baghdad summit resolutions and of the firm pan-Arab stands on liberating the occupied territory and regaining Palestinian rights.

Within the framework of these pan-Arab bases, Syria will confront all attempts to peddle the Camp David accords to the Arab nation through the Egyptian regime. At the same time, Syria extends its hand to support all stands by the Egyptian masses and their national forces to free Egypt of the Camp David chains and to bring it back to its natural postion in the militant Arab arena.

### Jordanian Sources Confirm Meetings With Israel

*TA221019 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 22 Jan 87 p 9*

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Shefi Gabay]

[Excerpt] Jordanian-Israeli meetings did indeed take place last year between figures at different levels. Egypt, however, objects to these direct meetings, and voiced its opposition to Jordan's King Husayn. This was stated to *Ma'ariv* last night by people close to the Royal Court in Amman, in reaction to the recent reports on Israeli-Jordanian meetings.

During the latest summit meetings in Al-'Aqabah and Cairo between Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and King Husayn, Egypt expressed apprehension about these secret, direct meetings. Egypt, which had reached agreement with Jordan on coordinating political activity to solve the Middle East conflict, claims the Jordanian-Israeli meetings could harm the PLO's standing in the world. Mubarak had personally promised the PLO leadership to prevent any separate political talks between Jordan and Israel. According to him, the direct talks between Jordanian and Israeli figures also contravened the Camp David accords. Egypt considers an international conference with the participation of all parties to the dispute, including a Jordanian-PLO delegation, the best forum in which to negotiate with Israel, under the supervision of the five permanent UN Security Council members.

The sources said Husayn accepted Egypt's claims, although he made it clear the meetings are connected to ways the Jordanian 5-year plan for the development of the territories can be implemented, and deal with the inhabitants' strong link to their land. Egypt, like the PLO leadership, is not interested in meeting for such purposes. According to the sources, the Jordanian Royal Court has made it clear it is part of the very old Hashemite policy to occasionally hold clarification meetings with the Israeli leadership. This policy was implemented even at the time of King 'Abdallah, King Husayn's grandfather.

The sources pointed out the last high-level meetings were held when Shim'on Peres served as prime minister. Lately, however, in light of Egypt's opposition, Jordan is cutting down these meetings, and did not even send a delegation that was to have met with Israeli personalities in a European capital. [passage omitted]

### Shamir: No Agreement To Talk

*TA221022 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 22 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Speaking during a visit to an Air Force base in the north, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said he knew nothing about an agreement on direct negotiations with Jordan and, as far as he knows, no such agreement has been reached, not even in talks held by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. However, were such a Jordanian agreement obtained, the prime minister would consider it a significant improvement in the peace process.

### Sources Name Schwimmer Envoy

*TA221052 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 22 Jan 87 p 1*

[Report by Middle East affairs correspondent 'Uzi Mahanaymi]

[Excerpt] London — Despite Shim'on Peres' denial, during an IDF Radio interview, of the report in *'Al Hamishmar* regarding the secret envoy sent to Jordan, our correspondent in London yesterday received confirmation an envoy on behalf of Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres indeed visited Jordan lately and met with King Husayn and the rest of the Jordanian leadership.

According to knowledgeable sources in London, Peres' envoy is his friend, Al Schwimmer, one of the "heroes" of the Iran arms deal affair. The sources, who are close to the Jordanian prime minister, said Schwimmer met with King Husayn and worked out a "technical agreement" on Israeli-Jordanian cooperation with him.

The agreement, as noted in *'Al Hamishmar* yesterday, refers to the establishment of joint Israeli-Jordanian projects in the 'Arava and opening the Haifa Port for Jordanian exports. The agreement is based on a plan by Shim'on Peres submitted to Adnan Khashoggi in New York in 1985. Khashoggi passed the plan on to Saudi King Fahd and King Husayn for perusal.

The Jordanian sources again emphasized Jordan has made every effort to bring together Israeli elements and Colonel Abu al-Za'im [Atallah 'Atallah], whom the Jordanians are promoting as a counterweight to 'Arafat. [passage omitted ]

### Foreign Minister on Objectives of European Tour

*TA211017 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Interview via telephone with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by moderator Yitzhaq Ro'e and political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami in the studio, "a short while prior to Peres' departure for Ben-Gurion Airport for his trip to Europe" — live]

[Excerpt] [Ro'e] Good morning, Mr Peres. Before we wish you bon voyage, is there a common denominator or a common aim for your planned talks with Mrs Thatcher tomorrow and, later on, with President Mitterand in Paris?

[Peres] Certainly, yes. I believe we have to maintain continual contacts with the French president as well as with the British prime minister. Both of them are showing great interest in Middle East events. As you know, Husayn was there a short time ago. It is very important for us to get support for our policy and to describe the situation to them. As usual, there are also bilateral issues to discuss.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Peres, it has been reported in your talks in London and Paris you will deal with the peace process. The briefing you received on the talks King Husayn conducted in Paris a few days ago indicates King Husayn's stance is quite firm; he is insisting

on an international conference. Therefore, there seems to be no room to bridge the gap between our position and Jordan's.

[Peres] Look, if everyone had stuck to his position, nothing would have happened in our region and in the world at large. It is clear one of the aims of any negotiations is to change stances, to exert influence, to introduce new ideas and new possibilities. Otherwise, everything will really remain at a standstill.

[Ro'e] Would you say any negotiations are currently under way with King Husayn, even indirectly? As a matter of fact, you yourself mentioned you will be arriving in Europe for talks after King Husayn's visit there. Is anything happening in the political arena?

[Peres] Look, I have to be really careful or else tomorrow there will be reports I am conducting negotiations with King Husayn — which is not true. However, there is no doubt Murphy, who came to determine whether all the parties are willing to continue the negotiations, received a positive answer. I will certainly also hear the impressions of the leaders of Britain and France and the EEC concerning the Arab positions, and I will also voice our positions. The peace process is not an automaton that moves by itself.

[Ro'e] Is it moving at all?

[Peres] It must be moved. So far, it has moved. Many things on our map have been changed, as you know, with interesting results. We must continue to keep this process moving.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Peres, can we enlist the Europeans' support for any idea at a time when, as we understand it, the United States is quite absorbed in its own affairs? Perhaps Washington is preoccupied with affairs that concern us as well, but, in principle,is preoccupied with its own affairs. Beyond briefings and passing on information, can one think of an additional way to mobilize Europe and its leaders — particularly Mrs Thatcher and Mr Mitterrand — to help advance the peace process in any way?

[Peres] I think so.

[Ben-'Ami] How?

[Peres] The Europeans can, for example, play a role with regard to the Soviet issue — with regard to Soviet Jewry as well as the Soviet stances. The USSR is very interested in the European positions. There is no doubt, for example, Mr Mitterrand and Mrs Thatcher have closer relations with that country than we do. Other issues include the economic issue, the Common Market and the occupied territories, terrorism; there is quite a long string of issues in which they can play a role. One need not exaggerate or underestimate. I do not believe such a visit will change the world, but it is always very important for us to show initiative and maintain reliable relations. I believe Europe can also play a tangible role on the Soviet issue, which I consider very important both in terms of Soviet Jewry and the Middle East.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Peres, the possibility has been mentioned you might also visit Bonn, West Germany, during this visit.

[Peres] Yes, the fact is I have received such an invitation. The whole matter started when a meeting was set up for my predecessor in Brussels with the 12 EEC foreign ministers. In the wake of this, I received an invitation to visit England and France as well, and now Bonn. It is only a matter of scheduling because...

[Ben-'Ami, interrupting] There are only 7 days in a week.

[Peres] There are 7 days in a week; sometimes there are only 6. So, if at all possible, I will pass through Bonn. [passage omitted]

### Peres Meets Officials in UK

For reportage on Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' visit to the UK, including his meetings with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe, and Labor Party leader Neil Kinnock, see the United Kingdom section of the 22 January Western Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

## 2 IDF Officers Disciplined Over UNIFIL Death

*TA211949 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] Two senior officers in the Northern Command have been disciplined following the death of an Irish UNIFIL soldier from Israeli shellfire. Corporal Dermot McCoughlan was killed when three shells hit a UN position just outside the security zone in south Lebanon. [passage omitted]

## ALGERIA

### Foreign Minister Receives Soviet Ambassador

*LD220927 Algiers APS in Arabic 0855 GMT 22 Jan 87*

[Text] Algiers, 22 Jan (APS) — Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs, received Vasiliy Taratutu, Soviet ambassador to Algeria, at his ministry yesterday. The Soviet ambassador handed him a message from Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, addressed to President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN Party.

## LIBYA

### Egypt's Presence To Keep Al-Qadhdhafi From ICO

*LD221433 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1415 GMT 22 Jan 87*

[Text] Tripoli, 22 Jan (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution made a statement to JANA. He said: I will not attend the Islamic Summit Conference to be held in Kuwait because this conference has become a farce due to the Egyptian Government's participation. As the Islamic Conference is a basis for the liberation of Jerusalem, how can it accept as a member Egypt, which has recognized that which has occupied Jerusalem and made it its capital? It was for that reason that it was expelled and the same reasons for which Egypt was expelled still exist. Therefore, its presence at the Islamic conference is illegitimate, will break up the conference, and will bring it to naught.

### Al-Qadhdhafi Meets GUNT President, Officials

*LD212314 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Jun 87*

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received Acheikh Ibn Oumar, president of GUNT of Chad, this evening. The GUNT vice president, foreign minister, and other GUNT members also attended the meeting. This meeting follows their return from Algeria where they held meetings with a number of Algerian officials.

### African Leaders' Reactions to Chad Affairs Noted

#### Al-Turayki on African Meetings

*LD211136 Tripoli JANA in English 0935 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Tripoli, Ay Alnar Month 21, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The leader of the revolution received Dr. 'Ali al-Turayki who briefed him on the results of his meetings with the leaders of Nigeria, Benin, Togo and Niger.

Mr. al-Turayki said that these leaders had confirmed to him that they were against the French intervention in Chad, which represented an interference in its internal affairs.

Mention should be made that such confirmation on the part of these presidents is contrary to what the French media alleges that its intervention has come at the request of African leaders.

#### Burkina Faso Official on GUNT

*LD211220 Tripoli JANA in English 0937 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Tripoli, Ay Alnar 21, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The secretary of the General People's Committee for Information and Culture met yesterday morning Mr. Bassil Guisso, the information minister of Burkina Faso Jamahiriyah and his accompanying delegation that is currently on a visit to Great Jamahiriyah.

Mr. Guisso has condemned the French-U.S. military intervention in Chad stressing that the safety of Great Jamahiriyah is part and parcel of that of his country.

He adds that puppet Habre wants to make Ndjamena an imperialist base threatening the security of African peoples.

He continues that stooge Mobutu has been using mercenaries to internationlize the conflict in Chad and liquidate the Chadian people.

Mr. Guisso has called for the evacuation of the French-U.S. troops from Chad and has recognised the legitimacy of the new Chadian National Unity Government.

Finally, during the above meeting the sides have discussed the means conducive to promoting the bilateral relations between Great Jamahiriyah and his country.

### Al-Qadhdhafi Inspects Coastal Fortifications

*LD212141 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution inspected the fortifications under construction along the Libyan coast. During his inspection tour, the brother leader of the revolution closely observed the vanguard of the armed people who are working hard laying mines and erecting barbed wire. They have high morale to turn the coastal strip into a hell to burn anyone who dares come near it.

The armed masses surrounded the brother leader of the revolution chanting loud revolutionary slogans stressing the spirit of defiance and confrontation of the arrogance of U.S. imperialism and declaring their everlasting commitment to protect internally and externally the great al-Fatih revolution and its ideals. [Video shows Al-Qadhdhafi in military uniform accompanied by a colonel; shots of the coast; shots of cars and tractors; shots of Al-Qadhdhafi surrounded by men — some in military uniform and others in civilian clothes — chanting slogans]

### Libya, Algeria To 'Entwine' Newspapers

*LD211806 Tripoli JANA in English 1428 GMT*
*21 Jan 87*

[Text] Tripoli, Ay Alnar Month 21, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — It was agreed yesterday to entwine *Al-Fajr Al-Jadid* paper of Great Jamahiriyah and *Al-Sha'b* Algerian paper, apart from the periodical *Al-Jamahiriyah* and *Al-Mujahid.*

This entwining comes as a step in the media field heralding a unity between Great Jamahiriyah and Algeria.

This 12-item agreement stress inter alia, that the entwined papers and periodicals should exert their efforts to strengthen the media connection between the two sisterly countries to confront the disinformation campaign waged by the imperialists against the Arab nation.

### DPRK Vice President Stops in Tripoli On Way Home

*LD211305 Tripoli JANA in English 1042 GMT*
*21 Jan 87*

[Text] Tripoli, A'ina Annar Month 21, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The North Korean vice president, Mr. Yi Chong-ok, and his accompanying delegation stopped at Tripoli airport yesterday on his way home.

In comments made to JANA, Mr. Chong-ok said that he was happy to be in Great Jamahiriyah with which his country had strong relations.

He has also condemned the U.S.-NATO abortive and savage aggression launched against Great Jamahiriyah last April, adding that his country staged demonstrations and other activities against it.

He continues that his country highly lauds the supportive role of Great Jamahiriyah alongside his people for achieving its unity and progress.

He concludes his comments by extending his greetings to the leader of the revolution and the people of Great Jamahiriyah wishing the bilateral cordial relations more successes.

## MOROCCO

### Interior Ministry Agreements Signed With Spain

*LD212045 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1300 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] Morocco and Spain signed two agreements for cooperation in civil protection and drug abuse this morning. These two agreements were signed by Moroccan Interior Minister Driss Basri and Spanish Interior Minister Jose Pena Barrionuevo, who is on an official visit to our country.

In a statement on this occasion, the two ministers pointed out their happiness over Moroccan-Spanish cooperation and stressed the two agreements signed are part of other agreements in other fields to be signed in the future between the two ministries. [passage omitted]

## SUDAN

### SPLA Radio Commentary Views Al-Mahdi Speech

*EA211841 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Bari*
*1120 GMT 20 Jan 87*

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Greetings, brothers and sisters. Our commentary today is about the speech given by a person said to be the leader and someone who will develop Sudan, someone whom you know very well as Al-Sadiq the son of Mahdi. Brothers, yesterday there was a grand occasion and celebration during the opening of a television station in Halfah al-Jadidah. Sadiq the son of Mahdi said many things. I do not want to touch on everything he said, but I would like to mention a few.

One thing I would like to mention here is Al-Sadiq's statement that Sudan is now very peaceful, that attention is being given to the urgent needs of the people, and that people have settled down to talk about petty quarrels which came as a result of misunderstandings in various political parties. This is a statement by Al-Sadiq, who says he is the son of Mahdi.

Regarding the problem of southern Sudan, Sadiq said he is surprised and wonders why some people in the south still arm to fight the Sudanese people. To him, such people are the troublemakers in the country. He said he is planning a major war by buying many guns and recruiting many soldiers to out-gun those Sudanese people. [passage omitted]

When Al-Sadiq came to power, what did he do? He went to Addis Ababa to talk with SPLA leader Colonel Dr John Garang. During their talks, Al-Sadiq wanted to scold Dr Garang like a small child, telling him if he was wise he would lay down his weapons and join the government in Khartoum. Otherwise, a major war would follow. Col Garang was surprised, and he said in reply to Al-Sadiq: You come from Khartoum and live in a house full of comforts and drink cold water from the refrigerator. You are not like me, who came from the bush and knows the situation very well, the performance of my people, the performance of your people, and the difficulties facing them all.

From Addis Ababa, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi returned to Khartoum to mobilize his soldiers to fight the SPLA. But what was the result? A terrible defeat. Al-Sadiq has never appeared interested in negotiating peace in the country. We keep saying that all the Sudanese people are suffering, but Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi insists that there is no suffering in Sudan. He insists on things like his traditional clothes, which he does not change. Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi speaks in a such a way that he is the son of Mahdi, his grandfather, who drove the white man from Sudan. The work of Mahdi the grandfather was good, unlike that of Mahdi the grandson.

We are not the property of the Al-Sadiq family. Al-Sadiq does not have a program: He is emotional and unable to rule. He has already done many dirty things in the country. Recently, he banned strikes in Khartoum, but he should remember that Numayri did the same and failed and so he [Al-Sadiq] is not expected to succeed. Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi is a mere liar and a useless man.

**Foreign Minister Receives PLO Representative**
*EA212018 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1700 GMT 20 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Abu Rajai, PLO representative in Khartoum, in his office today. Abu Rajai said that during the meeting they discussed the latest developments in the Arab arena, in particular the seven-member Arab committee formed to discuss the situation in the Palestinian camps.

During the meeting they also discussed Sudan's firm stand on the Palestinian cause and its prominent role in stopping the massacre of Palestinians in Lebanon. [passage omitted]

## TUNISIA

**Prime Minister Receives 'Arafat, PLO Delegation**
*LD211354 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic*
*2300 GMT 20 Jan 87*

[Text] Prime Minister Rachid Sfar received Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, this evening. The meeting was attended on the Tunisian side by Mansur Skhiri, Zayn al-Din bin 'Ali, Hadi al-Bakkush, and Tayyib al-Sahbani, and on the Palestinian side by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department; Mahmud Abbas, member of the Executive Committee, member of the Fatah Central Committee, and deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces; Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid and Hani al-Hasan, members of Fatah Central Committee; and Hakam Bal'awi, PLO representative in Tunisia.

## WESTERN SAHARA

**Polisario Hits 'Military Escalation' by Rabat**
*LD212033 Algiers APS in English 1024 GMT*
*21 Jan 87*

[Text] SDAR (Liberated Territories), 21 Jan 87 (APS) — The Political Bureau of the Polisario Front assessed Sunday the action undertaken by the Saharan people over the last year and decided programmes for this year, during a meeting chaired by Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, secretary general of the Polisario Front, a communique of the Saharan Ministry of Information announced.

After it expressed satisfaction about efforts made by the Saharan people in liberated territories and in the refugee camps in all fields, hailed the Saharan populations in occupied zones and paid homage to the spirit of heroism of the Saharan People's Liberation Army, the Political Bureau expressed satisfaction with the progress of the Saharan [words indistinct] international level.

It also expressed its sincere thanks to states — first to Algeria — and to organizations and personalities who advocate law and justice for the support they are providing for the Saharan people in their legitimate struggle.

Moreover, the Political Bureau of the Polisario Front condemned "the policy of military escalation followed by the regime of Rabat and its attempt to impose the fait accompli with the support of the U.S. and the Zionist entity".

## CAMEROON

### Communique Issued From Joint Meeting With Egypt

*AB170559 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 16 Jan 87*

[Text] The final joint communique, signed at the end of the special session of the Cameroon-Egypt Permanent Joint Commission for Cooperation, has just been released. It shows that the two countries insisted on the need to do everything possible to enhance general relations and the level of political ties already so (?fertile) between Cameroon and Egypt. The meeting agenda covered cultural cooperation, scientific cooperation, and economic cooperation.

In the cultural field, the two parties agreed to prolong, for 1 year, the protocol agreement on cultural, technical, and scientific cooperation signed in Cairo in 1984, while waiting for the adoption of a new draft. Concerning scientific and technical cooperation, emphasis was placed on the training of skilled manpower and on the need to extend this cooperation to other fields. In the commercial field, the two parties are determined to do everything possible to intensify their trade exchanges, which have remained below real potential. They then proposed measures, notably the revision of a list of products (?to be traded) between the two countries, the exchange of visits by businessmen, and other operators in the economic field, as well as participation in trade fairs.

As a side activity to the session, Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, was received this morning at the Unity Palace by President Paul Biya to whom he delivered a message of friendship from the Egyptian president, Hosni Mubarak. Butrus Ghali addressed the national press this afternoon at Sofitel Mont Mfebe Hotel. The Egyptian delegation leaves Yaounde this evening.

### Libyan Envoy Conveys Al-Qadhdhafi Message on Chad

*AB211209 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] President Paul Biya granted an audience to the Libyan deputy minister of foreign affairs. (Al-Mahdi) came to deliver a message from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. (Al-Mahdi) refused to disclose the contents of the message, but said it dealt with the situation in Chad. Asked about Niger President Seyni Kountche's initiative to urgently summon an OAU extraordinary summit meeting to discuss the Chadian conflict, the Libyan envoy refused to comment.

## CAR

### AFP: Minister Presents 1987 Fiscal Year Budget

*AB220726 Paris AFP in French 1106 GMT 20 Jan 87*

[Excerpts] Bangui, 20 Jan (AFP) — The Central African Republic's budget for fiscal year 1987 stood at revenues of 46.23 billion CFA francs and expenditures of 54.61 billion CFA francs. Sources from Bangui Monday [19 January] evening said that this represents an increase of 13 percent in revenue and 11 percent in expenditure as compared to 1986.

The minister in charge of the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers, Jean Willybiro-Sako, who presented this budget Monday afternoon on national radio, pointed out that the overall deficit of 8.38 billion francs would be financed by resources drawn from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, and bilateral aid (conditioned by an agreement with the IMF).

Desirous of improving the economic situation of the country and ensuring a strict execution of the budget, Mr Willybiro-Sako announced that the government decided to emphasize the recovery of state resources and especially combatting fiscal, customs, and mining fraud and tax evasion. Checks will be made both inside and outside the country.

Moreover, the structure of the economic and financial services will be reorganized and computerized.

Concerning expenses, the government decided to reduce its contributions to international organizations and its missions abroad through the creation of an evaluation and verification commission. Similarly, the CAR's diplomatic representation (about 20 embassies) has been modified. [passage omitted]

Revenues for 1986 totalled only 40.930 billion CFA francs, compared with the original estimate of 44.433 billion CFA, Willybiro-Sako stated, adding that estimated expenditures were overrun notably with regard to salaries paid to civil servants and allocations for the maintenance of 1,500 trainees.

## CHAD

### Lassou Accuses Libya of 'Diversionary Tactics'

*AB211454 Paris AFP in French 1357 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Interview with Minister of Foreign Affairs Gouara Lassou by AFP special envoy Christian Millet in Ndjamena, 21 January]

[Text] Ndjamena, 21 Jan (AFP) — Chadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Gouara Lassou on Wednesday asked France, the United States, and African countries not to be deceived by Libya's diversionary tactics. Libyan envoys have been visiting several African countries over the past few days to assert that Libya would like to contribute to reconciliation between Chadians.

Meanwhile, the current OAU chairman, Denis Sassou Nguesso, president of Congo, has proposed a meeting of national reconciliation between Chadians but has not said anything about Libyan occupation of northern Chad, Ndjamena pointed out.

In an interview with AFP, Gouara Lassou stated that Libya's campaign, which has been given coverage by some African states, is aimed at camouflaging the colonial war it has been fighting in Chad for several years, and the military defeat it has been suffering over the past few weeks. The minister was referring to Libya's annexation in May 1973 of the 112,000 sq km border

area called the Aouzou Strip, to the almost total occupation of Chad in 1980 and 1981, and the continued presence of Libyan troops in the northern part of the country, which is as large as France (552,000 sq km).

The din being made by Libya is also aimed at throwing dust into the eyes of Chad's friends to make them slow down their aid, Gouara Lassou continued. A few countries, especially France and the United States, are in fact sending military equipment to Chad to help it fight the Libyan Army. Each time Libya has difficulty or prepares a new offensive against Chad, as is the case today, it makes false diplomatic manuevers to give the impression that the conflict is between Chadians and not between Chad and Libya, the minister stated.

During its major offensives in 1980, 1983, and early 1986, Libya, asserted it was trying to put an end to a civil war between Chadians and would call on the OAU to convene a meeting between them for national reconciliaiton, observers stationed in Ndjamena recall.

The minister of foreign affairs then called on France, the United States, and African countries not to allow themselves to be deceived. He nevertheless expressed confidence that these countries learned a lesson in 1984.

On 17 September of that year, Claude Cheysson, then French minister of foreign affairs, announced in Tripoli that France and Libya had agreed to a simultaneous and immediate withdrawal of French and Libyan troops from Chad.

The departure of French soldiers (sent to Chad in August 1983 to halt the Libyan offensive) ended on 10 November 1984 and it quickly came to light that the Libyan contingent remained.

The Chadian foreign minister demanded that the French and Libyan troops not be put on the same footing. The Libyans, he felt, are troops of invasion and occupation, while the French were called in by the Chadian Government. Moreover, we called them because of the Libyan Army's presence there, and this by virtue of a military cooperation agreement such as exist all over Africa.

## Political Factions React to OAU Peace Plan

### Communique Seeks Negotiation

*AB211619 Paris AFP in French 1537 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Paris, 21 Jan (AFP) — The Chadian Government is prepared to begin negotiations immediately with Libya in the framework of the OAU, according to a communique issued on Wednesday by the Chadian Embassy in Paris. This communique, issued a day after a statement made in Paris by the Congolese minister of foreign affairs that Libya is prepared to contribute to a permanent settlement of the conflict, also condemned Tripoli's diplomatic gesticulations over Chad.

The embassy asserted that, concerning a peaceful settlement of the conflict between Chad and Libya, the Chadian Government is ready to begin negotiations immediately with the Al-Qadhdhafi regime in the framework of the OAU ad hoc committee set up in this regard in 1976.

### CDR Supports Meeting Plan

*AB211810 Paris AFP in French 1734 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Paris, 21 Jan (AFP) — The Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR, Acheikh ibn Oumar's pro-Libyan opposition movement) expressed satisfaction Wednesday with the proposal by OAU Chairman Denis Sassou-Nguesso (Congo) to organize a Chadian national reconciliation meeting.

In a communique, one of Acheikh ibn Oumar's associates, Gaileth Bourkou Mandah, asserted that such a meeting was the only way to achieve peace in Chad and praised all African leaders who support this initiative.

The refusal by Western media to recognize the real and active presence of the CDR, which comprises 6,000 men, in the Chadian war confirms the lack of adequate knowledge of the real situation, he added, asserting that the CDR admits it is backed by a friendly country. On the contrary, he claimed, Hissein Habre's regime (...) [punctuation as received] is obviously tribaliatic.

### Bardai Condemns French, U.S. Intervention

*AB212145 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1818 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Station commentary]

[Text] At a time when the GUNT, the governments of OAU member-countries, and peace-loving countries seek a peaceful solution to the Chadian crisis, France, the United States, and their puppets in Ndjamena are implementing the plan of attack they drew up before the French-African summit in Lome. Contrary to the decisions made at the recent [words indistinct] the French Government is using all means at its disposal to deliver all kinds of arms to the Ndjamena regime. The recent delivery of war equipment to support Ndjamena took place after the recent visit there by General Saulnier, chief of staff of the French Army.

According to reliable sources, it was the rebel Ndjamena group which (?called on France to intervene in Chad). For its part, the United States has chartered giant Galaxy planes on several occasion to send war supplies to Chad. The most recent plane to land there had cargo comprising nothing but land and air missiles.

This is a large-scale operation aimed at the intrusion and recolonization of an OAU member-state by two Western powers. This action is internationalizing the Chadian civil war and preventing it from remaining a purely African affair. In this regard, some African OAU member-states have estimated how dangerous it is for France, the United States, and their local agents to create an international hotbed of tension on our continent. In fact, the numerous African heads of state who have openly expressed their hostility toward the warlike maneuvers of Western powers in Chad deserve praise.

Moreover, the OAU disapproves of the objectives of the imperialist powers in Africa in general and in Chad in particular, because the transformation of Chadian territory into a French and American battlefield constitutes a serious threat to the independence, stability, and security of states in the region.

The French and American imperialists not only support a barbaric regime with illusions that are rejected by all Chadian people, but they also support a regime which is using all [words indistinct]. France, through its war declared on the Chadian people, aims first to recolonize our country by exploiting its riches and second to make Africa its private property. It is common knowledge that it maintains troops in a certain number of countries such as the CAR, Senegal, Gabon, among other [words indistinct].

It is the duty of humanity in general and African countries in particular to condemn this imperialist attack on an OAU member-state. In the face of this French and American imperialism, some countries, led by persons paid by the enemies of Africa, have been allowing imperialist troops to be stationed on their territory, and they have turned a blind eye to French and American imperialism. These countries are advised to wake up from their sleep and react because today it is Chad's turn to be a victim of imperialism, but who knows that tomorrow it won't be their turn?

However, some other African countries have adopted a courageous attitude by condemning French and American imperialist maneuvers in Chad. [country names indistinct], Uganda, Madagascar, Nigeria. They have condemned the intervention of foreign forces in a purely Chadian war. Nigeria has also called on the United States to stop aiding the puppet regime of Ndjamena. Similarly in Lagos, General Babangida, the Nigerian president, and the Libyan permanent ambassador to the Untied Nations have expressed the hope that all foreign troops will withdraw from Chad, especially French, American, Zairian, and South African troops, so an African solution under the auspcies of the OAU may be found to the Chadian crisis.

[Words indistinct] and African countries in particular must stand together in their support for the struggle of the martyred people of Chad against the imperialist maneuvers of the French and Americans in the interests of Africa and of peace in the region.

## ZAIRE

### PRC Military Delegation Visits Kisangani

*AB212245 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1705 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Kinshasa, 21 Jan (AZAP) — A 4-member Chinese military delegation left Kinshasa Wednesday for Kisangani, according to the PRC Embassy in Kinshasa. The delegation, led by Huang Yongyi, military attache of the embassy, will attend a ceremony at which a large consignment of military uniforms will be presented to the 41st Action Brigade at Kisangani, which was trained by Chinese military advisers. The delegation will return to Kinshasa on Friday.

### Credit Granted to Armed Forces

*AB212250 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1840 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Excerpt] Kinshasa, 21 Jan (AZAP) — The Chinese Government has granted a 7 million yuan line of credit to strengthen the developing military cooperation between Zaire and the PRC, Huang Yongyi, military attache at the Chinese Embassy in Zaire, told AZAP. [passage omitted]

## BURKINA FASO

### Airspace Opened 24 Hours Daily as of 13 Jan

*AB201537 Paris AFP in French 1343 GMT 18 Jan 87*

[Text] Ouagadougou, 18 Jan 87 (AFP) — Burkina Faso has decided to open its airspace 24 hours daily as of 13 January, Alain Koeffe, Burkinabe minister of transport and communications, announced Sunday. According to the minister, who spoke at a press conference, the Burkinabe Government hopes this decision will boost the country's airport economy. It is also expected to encourage foreign airlines to use Burkinabe airports more often. According to him, Burkinabe airports have a very central position and can therefore help relieve congestion in other airports.

Burkinabe airspace has sometimes been closed entirely or partially since 1980 following the coup by Colonel Saye Zerbo's Military Committee for National Redress, which was overthrown in 1982 and during the war with Mali in 1985. Exceptions had to be made on health and humanitarian grounds when the border with Mali was closed to allow international airlines to use Burkinabe airspace.

## GHANA

### Rawlings Comments to BBC on Local Elections

*AB211710 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] After 5 years in power and the setting up of local defense committees and defense of the revolution committees designed to give power to the people, Jerry Rawlings' PNDC government in Ghana suddenly decided at the new year that there were to be local elections. Immediately, all the old guard politicians came out of the woodwork, eager to start campaigning. But at the weekend, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings put a flea in their ear telling them to go back where they came from because these elections were going to be different. In Accra, Davina Dougan asked Jerry Rawlings how they will be different.

[Begin recording] [Rawlings] As we all know, in the past, people have sat in Accra and tried to determine everything about the conditions of those in their various districts, and the rural areas have suffered the most from this. Now, we are insisting that these district-level elections will be the context to discuss national economic policies, and determine a mandate of the future conduct of the economic recovery program. By 1 July 1987, when we present the detailed modalities to the country, we should all have a better idea on when the elections will take place. I envisage that at the district level, the people will have a chance to assess individual candidates in terms of their probity, initiative, and general commitment to the welfare of their communities. And I believe that our people have over the years, you know, developed the necessary, or should I say a healthy skepticism about the old-style electorial process in which candidates foolishly distributed a few tins of items like corned beef and sardines just before the elections, to secure their votes. We do not expect the old-style parties to be their framework for the democratic choices of the people in these elections. [sentence as heard] No, and thankfully, this is what the people are hoping for.

[Dougan] How will the candidates be selected?

[Rawlings] How will the candidates be selcted? The question presupposes that the communities don't know who are the honorable citizens in their midst. This is the only way I can answer that question. They know them, yes. They have always been there except that the electoral processes have been designed in such a way that they've been cut off. But this time, we will have the true representatives of the people.

[Dougan] But as yet you can give no date.

[Rawlings] I can. We are very anxious to have it take off. After all, it's the best medium by which we can relate to the people more directly, you know.

[Dougan] Can you tell me, does that mean that the PNDC is going to be heading toward national elections in years to come?

[Rawlings] [Sigh] Now, district elections are obviously a first step in the political process that culminates at the national level, but we will discuss the further steps in this process of building a national democracy in due time, OK? [end recording]

### Hungarian Delegation Delivers Message to Rawlings

*AB212230 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] A 2-member Hungarian delegation led by Dr Gabor Nagy, deputy minister for foreign affairs, today delivered a special message from Pal Losonczi, president of the Presidential Council, to the chairman of the PNDC, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, at the Castle, Osu. The two men, together with two PNDC members, P.V. Obeng and Captain Kojo Tsikata, later held talks behind closed doors. Also at the meeting were Kofi Djin, secretary for trade and tourism, and Dr E.G.A. Don Arthur, chairman of the State Commission for Economic Cooperation.

Speaking to newsmen later, Dr Gabor Nagy said 25 years of cooperation between Ghana and Hungary is a pointer to the fact that the two countries have enjoyed cordial relations. He was sure that discussions held during the meeting with Chairman Rawlings will help improve bilateral cooperation between the two countries. Dr Nagy praised the efforts of the PNDC at economic recovery and Ghana's nonaligned policy. He also appreciated Ghana's efforts to create a better understanding of African problems for its stand against the evil system of apartheid.

The delegation was accompanied to the Castle by the Hungarian ambassador to Ghana, Laszlo Szikra.

**OATUU-WFTU Talks End; Communique Issued**
*AB212238 Accra Domestic Service in English*
*1800 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] The Organization of African Trade Union Unity, OATUU, and the World Federation of Trade Unions, WFTU, today reaffirmed their commitment to pursue their objectives for the establishment of a new international economic order. They also called for an end to the misuse of world resources on armaments and suggested that such resources be used for the benefit of mankind.

These declarations are contained in a joint communique issued by the two organizations after a 2-day working visit to the OATUU headquarters in Accra by a 3-man delegation from WFTU. The communique was signed on behalf of OATUU by its secretary general, Hassan Sunmonu, while the secretary general of WFTU, Ibrahim Zakaria, signed for his organization.

OATUU and WFTU expressed concern about the continued grave situation in southern Africa. In this connection, they pledged their support for the just struggle of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia. The two organizations renewed the call on the international community to impose comprehensive and mandatory economic sanctions on the apartheid regime to hasten the end of that obnoxious system.

Talking to newsmen later, Hassan Sunmonu disclosed that WFTU intends to assist OATUU to undertake a number of projects including the establishment of a permanent secretariat and a Kwame Nkrumah African Labor College in memory of the first president of Ghana.

## LIBERIA

**Opposition Criticizes U.S. After Shultz Visit**
*AB211828 London BBC World Service in English*
*1515 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] America's Secretary of State George Shultz apparently got an earful from three of Liberia's opposition parties during his 6-hour visit to Monrovia last week. They issued a 10-page document lashing the United States for its support of what was described as oppressive elements in Liberia and the document is apparently outspoken in its criticism of Samuel Doe's government. From Monrovia, Isaac Bantu cabled this report.

[Begin Bantu recording] Even though the opposition leaders themselves have said nothing about their meeting, some details are emerging about the contents of the document they presented to Mr Shultz. They accused the U.S. Government of defending oppressive and authoritarian elements who use the American taxpayers' money and arms to suppress, intimidate, threaten, and kill innocent people. They asked that all unconstitutional decrees, bans, and restrictions imposed on politicians, lawyers, academics, and newspapers be removed. The document also wanted the many security and immigration checkpoints to be limited to the borders of entry to ensure the right of citizens to travel freely. They claimed that press freedom and the legal profession were constantly threatened and urged that the air be cleared to allay citizens' fear of the pervasive threats of violence, brutality, and the fire power of the government.

Even though the chairman of the United People's Party, Mr Gabriel Baccus Matthews, was present at the meeting, he had no part in drawing up the document. It is understood that Mr Shultz asked the opposition leaders to give him 2 weeks to study the document. [end recording]

## NIGERIA

**Government Denies Sending Troops to Mozambique**
*AB220734 Accra Domestic Service in English*
*0700 GMT 22 Jan 87*

[Text] Nigeria has initiated an aid program for Mozambique. Under the program, Nigeria will offer military training for Mozambican youths and supply military uniforms and boots to that country's Armed Forces. Meanwhile, Nigeria has denied that she is sending 5000 troops to Mozambique to help in the fight against the Pretoria-backed bandits. An official statement in Lagos said there is no question of Nigeria sending soldiers to Mozambique.

**VANGUARD Opposes U.S. Drug Control Agreement**
*AB211225 Lagos Domestic Service in English*
*1200 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[From the Press Review]

[Text] The *Vanguard* is against the proposed mutual legal assistance treaty on drug trafficking between Nigeria and the United States. The paper says the agreement will portray Nigeria as a nation of hard drug criminals. The *Vanguard* is therefore surprised that the Federal Government subscribed to the agreement under which Nigerians will be prosecuted for what is basically an American affliction.

## SENEGAL

**Foreign Minister Leaves for ICO Summit in Kuwait**
*AB212248 Dakar Domestic Service in French*
*2000 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Foreign Minister Ibrahima Fall left Dakar yesterday for Kuwait at the head of the Senegalese delegation to the preparatory deliberations for the Fifth ICO Summit scheduled for 25-28 January in the Kuwaiti capital.

## TOGO

### Al-Qadhdhafi Message Delivered to Eyadema

*AB181037 Lome Domestic Service in French*
*2000 GMT 17 Jan 87*

[Text] President Eyadema, chairman of the Rally of the Togolese people, granted an audience this afternoon to a special envoy of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, His Excellency 'Ali al-Turayki, the Libyan permanent representative to the United Nations. Mr Koffi Amega, member of the Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and (Mahmoud El-Fakrish), Libyan charge d'affaires to Togo, were present during part of the audience, which lasted one hour. President Eyadema then met Al-Turayki one-on-one.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's special envoy spoke to the press. He said he delivered a message from the Libyan leader to General Eyadema. He also said their discussions were centered on Chad.

[Begin Al-Turayki recording] I delivered a message from the Libyan leader to his brother and friend, General Gnassingbe Eyadema. This message falls within the framework of the periodic consultations between the two countries. I also discussed African and notably Chadian issues with President Eyadema. We are all concerned by the Chadian issue. Togo and Libya have made efforts in the past to help our Chadian brothers solve their conflict. We all are striving to bring about national reconciliation in Chad for all Chadians without any exception. And the (?actors) in this conflict do not want any foreign intervention. They want an African solution to the problem under the auspices of the OAU. [end recording]

## MOZAMBIQUE

### Guebuza: Machel Internal Inquiry 'Not Concluded'

*MB211952 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Armando Guebuza, minister of transport and communications, and head of the national commission of inquiry into the causes of President Samora Machel's plane crash, said today that it was necessary to examine whether the (?radio beacon) which deviated the plane from its normal course was true or false.

Armando Guebuza was speaking to AIM following yesterday's communique issued by the Frelimo Party Political Bureau, which announced Mozambique's decision not to participate in the present hearing underway in the Supreme Court of Johannesburg. The investigation by the international commission is not concluded, Guebuza said. The international commission of inquiry includes Mozambique, the country owning the plane; the USSR where it was made; and South Africa, where the crash took place.

### Deputies Oppose Draft Law 'For the First Time'

*MB191940 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 19 Jan 87*

[Excerpts] For the first time in the history of the Mozambican parliament, the People's Assembly, several deputies today voted against a draft law. In voting on the new law on health care which introduces hospital charges, 43 of the assembly's 249 members (?voted) or abstained on one article. The controversial article concerned hospital charges for students over 18 years old who are dependent on their parents. Former Health Minister and current Foreign Minister Dr Pascoal Mocumbi argued that charges for such students should be paid by the employers of their parents and this position won the majority of votes. [passage omitted]

The health law, laws on private investment, and on charges in the tax system, as well as the 1987-88 budget and plan were debated for the best part of a week by the assembly. For part of this time, the assembly broke into seven working groups, thus making it easier for each deputy to give his or her contribution. The various laws all fall within the framework of the economic recovery program presented to the assembly by Prime Minister Mario Machungo last Wednesday. After a lengthy debate, the laws were all approved with various amendments on matters of detail.

The deputies were unanimous in their support for the general lines of economic recovery drawn up by the government. The aim of the recovery program is to reverse Mozambique's economic decline and to ensure that in 1990 the country regains the production figures of 1981, the best year for the Mozambican economy since independence. The assembly also voted to extend the mandate of the committee revising the constitution for a further year and elected further members to the committee. The committee consists of 30 members and it is chaired by Colonel Jose Oscar Monteiro, minister of state administration. The commission should report back to the assembly at its next session in the middle of the year after which the draft revised constitution will be submitted to nationwide debate.

## NAMIBIA

### New Air Force Commander on Angola's Capabilities

*MB212043 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1741 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Windhoek Jan 21 SAPA — New additions to Angola's Air Force gave that country a striking range of up to 150km inside SWA/Namibia, but the South African Air Force would take counter action if challenged, the new officer commanding Western Air Command, Brigadier Karel van Heerden, said in Windhoek today. Speaking at a brief news conference, Brig Van Heerden said in reply to a question that Angola's acquisition of MiG-23 fighter jets and SU-22's gave the country a striking range as far as Etosha and Oshivelo in SWA/Namibia.

South Africa would continue in future to notify the Angolan Government of cross-border pursuit operations against SWAPO insurgents but "if there is any interference or actions against us we will counter them." Brig Van Heerden said the SAAF's new Cheetah and Alpha aircraft had not yet been employed in combat, but they would probably be deployed in the near future if the need arose. His urgent wish was that SWA/Namibia would achieve peace at the earliest possible date.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### P.W. Botha Statement on Hendrickse Apology

*MB211928 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] The differences between President P.W. Botha and the chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Rev Allan Hendrickse, have been resolved at a cabinet meeting in Cape Town today. Mr Hendrickse sent a letter to Mr Botha clarifying his recent statements on the Group Areas Act, the media curbs, and his decision to swim at a whites-only beach. The president accepted Reverend Hendrickse's apology. This was stated by the president at a news conference, during which he also gave a unique description of cabinet procedure and the handling of differences between ministers.

[Begin Botha recording] I addressed the cabinet as follows — and I will be slow. [changes to English] A situation has arisen in this cabinet which I cannot accept. Let me first of all say that we are not a coalition government, and I stated this very clearly on many occasions in the past. I have the minutes of these different cabinet meetings here to substantiate what I stated, that this is not a coalition government. In other words, we did not come to terms with each other on certain specific principles on which we decided we shall cooperate and leave the rest out. That is a coalition. But I stated we are members of the new dispensation; and as members of a new dispensation, my first responsibility is to uphold the constitution. If I am not prepared to do that, I must make way for somebody else. But I am determined while I am the president to uphold the constitution. In the light of that constitution and

new dispensation, I invited the chairmen of the three houses to take part in the proceedings of my cabinet. That is the vast difference, gentlemen, I want to point out to you. A coalition is something different. But we are living in a different dispensation, something which is not the old system we had in South Africa, Is that clear?

It so happens that one of the chairmen is a member of my party. That is incidental. For the rest, the composition of the cabinet is entirely my choice. I accepted from the very start that in this new dispensation we have different views on matters of national affairs. I accepted from the very start that there is a difference of opinion in principle on the matter of separate residential areas for the different communities, for instance. My party is, in principle, bound to uphold the principle of separate residential areas — not the Group Areas Act as such. Because I have said in the past that I do not believe in any law to be a holy cow, we referred the Group Areas Act as such to the President's Council for investigation and report. As a matter of fact we first referred it to the Strydom Committee, and after that we referred it to the President's Council. Until they have completed their report, you will not be able to deal with the act as such. But I accepted that some members of the cabinet have different views than I have on the question of own residential areas for our different communities. But one thing we cannot deny is that this new dispensation is built on the basis of the acceptance of different residential areas and their right in South Africa, and if you take that away the whole dispensation comes down.

That does not mean that the chairman of one of the houses cannot get on the platform when he addresses his party and state his case, and say that I want to change this which is unacceptable. But as chairman of the cabinet itself, and as head of the government, I lay down certain procedures for cabinet ministers. Gentlemen, I lay stress on these words that as chairman of the cabinet itself and as head of the government, I lay down certain procedures for cabinet ministers.

I even acknowledge the right of the cabinet minister belonging to my own party to differ from me. But I do not grant him the right to go into the open unless he has discussed it with me beforehand, as I stated very clearly in the comments I made in this cabinet on various occasions. I am only referring to one, namely, on 9 October 1985 and subsequent dates. I dealt with this matter extensively in the cabinet. So let me once again stress this point: I do not deny any member of the cabinet the right to differ from me on matters of policy. But they have not got the right to take this to the public unless they have discussed it with me beforehand. If they discuss it with me and we cannot solve our problems, then we must try to fnd a way of dealing with the matter in an alternative way; or such a member must leave my cabinet. I think this is a very sound principle for government.

Now, I have seen this morning's *Die Burger*. I am not going to quote *Die Burger*, but I read a certain report of a caucus meeting of the Labor Party. I must say that I am most distressed to read in *Die Burger* of a caucus meeting dealing with a matter still under discussion with me. First of all, I did not see Minister Hendrickse twice. I saw him only once on this matter. *Die Burger* says I saw him twice. Where they got hold of that news I cannot tell. I saw him once. If they refer to the second meeting we had here a few days ago on other matters, surely that was a different matter on security affairs. When I read in *Die Burger* that the chairman of the House of Delegates had now also come into the picture — according to *Die Burger's* report he had stated that he is siding with the other minister — this is an intolerable position for the cabinet. I cannot go on with the cabinet in this way.

When I met Mr Hendrickse the other day I invited the other provincial leaders of my party to sit in on this discussion, and I told him specifically that it is not a matter of difference on the question of the principle on group areas as such, which is in dispute. The whole country knows it. They probably knew when we started this government. But I told him that the minister, when he takes the oath, declares the following, and I am going to quote this: I do hereby swear to be faithful to the Republic of South Africa and undertake before God to honor this oath, to hold my office as minister with honor and dignity; to respect and uphold the constitution and all other laws of the republic; to be a true and faithful councillor. Now this does not mean that you cannot propagate the change of the constitution, but it means that you must act as a minister with dignity and according to the rules.

[Changes to Afrikaans] The point I made to him was that his action — not at his congress, not at his party congress, because at his congress he can criticize, because we are a democratic state — but when he and other ministers marched in bathing trunks, then in my opnion, he broke this oath. He embarrassed me, and he infringed the rules of the cabinet. It is a question of procedure. [Changes to English] I told him so. I told him that I expect an apology from him and from his colleagues who accompanied him — not all his colleagues, because only a few accompanied him. Until now, I said this morning, no apology has reached me. Second, I told him that if he is not going to apologize, I think they have only one choice, and that is to leave the cabinet — both as members of the cabinet and as members of the Minsiters' Council — because I appoint these ministers, as head of the state. I also told him that if he is not prepared to do that, I will have no other choice but to dissolve parliament.

[Changes to Afrikaans] Then I went further, in the cabinet, and said the following: Now I read in *Die Burger* — and they have all kinds of stories while we are still busy negotiating with one another — I see reports of a tense relationship between me and the minister. I read that it was the Group Areas Act which was in dispute, and on which I had made proposals to him. I have not had an interview with *Die Burger*. Indeed, no newspaper has come to me since that time, except this morning, when they came to take photographs. In public life one reaches a stage for decision at some point. My whole life has been filled with such moments.

I would just like to say to the cabinet this morning [changes to English]: We are being told of the heavy price which the Labor Party and others in this country are paying for their cooperation in the new dispensation. I accept that. But I have paid a price nobody else has paid. Under my leadership my party split, on this very point, and since then I have been called names, and have been insulted on a very large scale. But I went out of my way to make this dispensation work, despite the fact that also from outside this country I was treated in the most mean and objectionable way by some Western leaders.

[Changes to Afrikaans] I am not sorry for myself. I have never pitied myself, not even over the dedication I have tried to give this country. Now I am going to hold an election, and I will tell parliament that when I open it. Toward the end of last year I directed a request to both the chairmen of the House of Delegates and the House of Representatives. [changes to English] I requested both of them to tell me if they wanted to join in this election; and both of them said, no, they preferred to stay out. I accepted that in calling an election at the request of the House of Assembly's minister, I will have to go to the country within 2 and 1/2 years again.

[Changes to Afrikaans] But there comes a time when one's preparedness to make sacrifices ends. Unless my demand for an apology on these matters is met — my request for an apology — and if that apology does not materialize, and my request that such ministers then must resign is not met, then I will dissove parliament and go to the country. That is what I told the cabinet, this morning. [changes to English] We had a long discussion on this matter in the cabinet, and today I received the following letter from Minister Hendrickse:

January, 21, Cape Town; chairman of Minister's Council. Dear President: With reference to the unfortunate incident that caused you to react against certain actions of mine I wish to record that I have carefully considered my own position and your reaction and attitude. I write this letter to you in the spirit of resolving the dispute in the best interests of the country. I ask that you accept that whatever I have done, I have done in accordance with the dictates of my conscience and the policy of the Labor Party of which I am the leader. For this I believe no apology is necessary — my comment on this is, of course not.

Then he goes further: Members of my community and I have suffered indignities over a long period in regard to many issues, but especially the issues of group areas and beach apartheid. On the very eve of our congress in Port Elizabeth we again suffered humiliation on the latter issue. This situation is, and will remain, unacceptable to my party and community as long as institutionalized measures of this kind remain. Our presence and participation in parliament, and the executive, was, and still is, that we are in a transitional period leading to the repeal of those laws. At the same time I accept your right to hold a different view. I am gratified that I have now been reassured by yourself, Mr President, that our right to differ and to promote change within the system, and according to the prescribed procedures at ministerial and other levels is not questioned.

The swimming event was not intended by my colleagues or myself as an act of civil disobedience, and we regret any conclusions to that effect. Furthermore, in nothing that my colleagues and I have done have we ever intended an affront to your person in your personal capacity, and your capacity as state president; nor did we intend to challenge your authority, as state president. In as much as any impression might have been created to that effect I offer on behalf of my colleagues and myself our apologies to you. As regards my statement on the media — you will remember, you will recall, gentlemen, that he stated at his congress that he takes no responsibility for the actions we took on the media — as regards my statement on the media, I intended today that I regret the necessity for regulations of this nature to be promulgated. In the context of my speech it is clear that I accepted that steps in this regard have to be taken. I then called upon the press to act under the circumstances, responsibly. Mr President, Sir, I would like to reiterate my commitment to peaceful negotiations. I trust that the above will be acceptable to you.

After a long discussion, and with these assurances, I accepted Mr Hendrickse's apology and his statement on the steps we took in connection with the media. [end recording]

After this, the state president referred to a letter written by the chairman of the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, to the editor of *Die Burger* newspaper. Mr Botha read the letter aloud.

[Begin Botha recording] Dear Mr Editor: I refer to the report in today's edition of your newspaper, which referred to the discussions I had with the Reverend Allan Hendrickse, chairman of the Ministers' Council of the House of Representatives, yesterday. I wish to place on record that no one from your newspaper spoke to me, and the report is not correct. I request that it be corrected in the next issue of your newspaper. I also accepted Mr Rajbansi's explanation. Consequently, the matter has been resolved, and the cabinet will continue its work. [end recording]

## PFP Calls Hendrickse Apology 'Demolition Job'

*MB211936 Johannesburg SAPA in English*
*1920 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Cape Town Jan 21 SAPA — The apology given to the state president by Labour Party leader Rev Allan Hendrickse over the swimming issue was a "demolition job," the Progressive Federal Party said tonight. PFP national chairman Mr Peter Gastrow said in a statement issued to SAPA: "It was a demolition job with such humiliation for Rev Hendrickse that he is unlikely to recover from it."

President Botha's actions in gaining the apology "confirm that to him power sharing means using junior partners to implement apartheid as dictated by the National Party.

"White minority rule remains intact and the little credibility which the new constitution enjoys will become even more eroded."

## Police Detain 281 in Faction Fight Investigation

*MB211436 Umtata Capital Radio in English*
*1300 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Hundreds of men are being held by police in Natal in a bid to stop a faction fight. Police have arrested 281 men in the Helpmekaar-WashBank area of northern Natal. They are being held for 90 days in terms of regulation R103 of 1973. During the time they are in custody police will continue their investigations into 11 unsolved murders in the area, all apparently linked to faction fighting.

Police said they used helicopters and a large force to round up the men yesterday afternoon after police were informed the men

were preparing to attack each other. Two hundred eighty-one assegais and shields were confiscaoed along with 9 firearms. Among these weapons were hunting rifles and a magnum pistol.

## Inflation Rate Averaged 18.6 Percent for 1986

*MB211133 Johannesburg SAPA in English*
*1014 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Text] Pretoria Jan 21 SAPA — The inflation rate, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, dropped to 18.1 per cent in December last year, after peaking at 19.2 per cent in October and November. The Central Statistical Service said in a news release in Pretoria today that this brought the average inflation rate for 1986 to 18.6 per cent.

As recently as 1984 the annual rate was "only" 11.7 per cent. Food prices rocketted through the 20 per cent level last year to measure 20.3 per cent.

Meat prices soared by 26.8 per cent, fish by 28.7 per cent and coffee and tea by 31.7 per cent. Cleaning materials went up by 40.2 per cent, vehicles by 38.0 per cent, recreation by 29.5 per cent and education by 27.6 per cent.

Housing showed an increase of 14.8 per cent for 1986, despite the decrease in interest rates. The lower, middle and higher income groups were almost equally hard-hit by inflation last year. The annual rates for the three groups were respectively 18.5, 18.9 and 18.6 per cent.

The urban area which experienced the highest average annual price increases — 20.6 per cent — was Pretoria and Verwoerdburg — a phenomenon possibly ascribable to the precence of public servants. The smallest increase — 15.3 per cent — occurred at Durban and Pinetown.

## Marais Says Rightists Make Botha 'Insecure'

*PM161929 London THE INDEPENDENT in English*
*16 Jan 87 p 12*

[Interview with South African Reconstituted National Party leader Jaap Marais by Tony Allen-Mills: "A Standard-Bearer of White Rule"]

[Text] Johannesburg — If Jaap Marais has his way, the forthcoming white general election in South Africa will provide not the triumphant swansong that P.S. Botha appears to expect, but the 71-year-old President's greatest humiliation.

Mr Marais is both the head and soul of the Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP) [Reconstituted National Party], the "purified" right-wing Afrikaner group that split with the government in 1969 over its "soft" approach to apartheid reform.

For almost two decades the silver-haired HNP leader has been a bitter apostle of resistance to change. Sugaring his racism with an avuncular charm, he has established a degree of popularity among right-wing Afrikaners that belies his party's relative failures at the polls.

The HNP has just one seat in Parliament and is hardly in a position to oust Mr Botha alone. But Mr Marais believes that in the coming elections, a combined attack by South Africa's diverse right-wing armies could seriously damage the credibility of the ruling National Party.

"It is our information that Botha is already having second thoughts on the wisdom of calling an election this year," Mr Marais said. "Why should that be? Because he feels insecure at the rising tide of the right."

Most political analysts here agree that the strength of the right is the crucial question to be answered during the election campaign that President Botha is due to launch at the end of this month. Opinion polls suggest that a growing number of whites have come to reject the government's tentative stepts towards political reform.

In an interview in his Pretoria office, Mr Marais summed up Afrikaner disillusion thus: "The National Party made all these concessions in the hope of avoiding sanctions, but they've allowed South Africa to become completely isolated...this government has gone out of its way to try and appease its critics and every bit of appeasement has led to greater pressure. Every aspect of Botha's policy has failed."

On the face of it, the National Party's grip on the white electorate looks impregnable. It holds 117 of the House of Assembly's 166 elected seats, and only an unprecedented political earthquake could send it to defeat.

But right-wing leaders like Mr Marais are convinced the government will suffer serious reverses at the hands of white voters determined to stop South Africa "going the way of Kenya, Zambia, Rhodesia and the others".

"I wouldn't discount the possibility of the National Party being so weakened that it wouldn't be able to govern," said the HNP leader. "And once Afrikaners see there is a serious alternative, they'll desert the National Party in droves."

There is, however, a formidable catch. The disparate forces of right-wing Afrikanerdom are badly disunited. Mr Marais' claim as standard-bearer of the right is hotly disputed by the more moderate figure of Andries Treurnicht, a former National Party minister who broke with the government in 1982 when he and others founded the South African Conservative Party.

The rivalry between Mr Marais and Dr Treurnicht is ancient and intense. In 1971 Dr Treurnicht beat Mr Marais for a seat in the Waterberg by-election. Over the next decade they fought three more elections, Mr Marais losing every time. When in 1982 Dr Treurnich announced his dissatisfaction with President Botha's liberal tendencies and resigned from the Cabinet, Mr Marais was not impressed.

"They stayed in the National Party for 13 years after we broke away. They went along with (Prime Minister John) Vorster for

eight years, and four more with Botha. They don't like it when we criticise what Vorster and Botha did during that time. They don't want to admit they were wrong."

Argument about who was the earliest or most perceptive right-wing rebel offers an unpromising basis for election accord, and there are further awkward obstacles to unity. While the CP would keep South Africa bilingual between English and Afrikaans, the more extreme HNP seeks an Afrikaans-only state. The CP want to form an independent "homeland" for the Indian population, but the HNP rejects the notion of Indian self-rule and some of its members have even advocated repatriation to India.

In addition, the CP controls 17 seats in the present Parliament, a far greater share than that of the HNP. While the CP acknowledges that Mr Marais' popularity is an invaluable asset, it appears reluctant to accept any arrangement that might put the HNP on anything like an equal footing with its much bigger rival.

But on one crucial issue — that of black political rights — the two right-wing parties speak loudly with one voice. "What the government calls reform," says Mr Marais, "we call surrender." Dr Treurnicht agrees: "There is no such thing as sound and healthy power-sharing as Mr Botha indicates. If you share power, actually you lose it."

The conviction of both men that President Botha is sliding down a slippery slope to black majority rule is the strongest argument for a right-wing electoral pact. Mr Marais is in no doubt that the reason the election was called in the first place was to pave the way for further reform.

"I think the government has called this election because it wants to bring blacks into the constitutional set-up," Mr Marais told me. "They are clamping down in townships now in order to pacify the right wing. But after the election they will introduce blacks into Parliament in the hope of pacifying unrest.

"I think this is perfectly fallacious," Mr Marais went on. "These blacks don't want token representation in Parliament, they want to take over the government. And they won't be satisfied until an ANC government is installed. The government is taking these intermediary steps, but as far as we're concerned, they are ready to abdicate."

Mr Marais is also certain that his differences with Dr Treurnicht will not stand in the way of election accord. "I'm quite sure that the force of circumstances are such that the Conservative Party will have to come to terms with us," he said. "It may take a couple of weeks but it cannot be avoided."

## Machel Crash 'Abused for Political Gain'

*MB220528 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Jan 87*

[Station commentary]

[Text] It is to be regretted that the Soviets and Mozambicans are evidently choosing to remain aloof from the proceedings of the board of inquiry investigating the Machel air disaster. So far they have not even replied to repeated invitations to participate. Whether that has anything to do with the facts now catching up with the anti-South African propaganda of the last 3 months is of course a matter for speculation. In any event, it is of note that the extravagant accusations heard earlier, about South Africa being responsible for the air crash in which the former president of Mozambique was killed have virtually ceased.

This is not surprising, in view of the indisputable authority that the findings of the Margo commission, now sitting in Johannesburg, will carry. In its composition, the commission has a credibility that can hardly have been surpassed by any previous inquiry of a similar kind anywhere else in the world. Its credentials are impeccable — from the chairman, a supreme court judge, to the internationally respected American and British members and the top-ranking South African specialists. Added to this, Mr Justice Margo has already given the assurance that he will strive to ensure that all possible evidence is presented in public. A strong contingent of the local and international media will be present throughout the hearing. And requests have gone out to all who may have information relevant to the accident to come forward and testify.

In a poliitcal sense the evidence presented on the first day of the inquiry was uncontroversial. Its interest lies in what it reflects of the extent of the agreement among the different parties on the factual events leading up to the accident. Counsel leading the evidence pointed out that South African, Soviet, and Mozambican experts had been unanimous in their finding that there was nothing wrong with the aircraft; there were no signs of sabotage. The crash had clearly been caused by a misunderstanding between air traffic control at Maputo and the Soviet crew. A report on the investigations into the facts of the case is signed by representatives of the South African, Soviet, and Mozambican teams. From it the course of events emerges fairly clearly. At no stage in the descent of the aircraft did its crew make a visual sighting of runway lights, nor did it follow signal aids. Some 4 minutes before the crash the flight captain reported to his crew: There is no Maputo — electric power is off, chaps. In the last few second's the navigator is heard saying: there's nowhere to go, no non-directional beacons, followed by the captain: Nor instrument landing system. Those were the last words before the crash. No doubt much ground remains to be covered before this very exhaustive inquiry has run its course. But one thing is clear: By the time it is over the Margo commission will have uncovered, for the world to know, the truth about a tragedy that has been so grossly abused for political gain.

## Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB220649 [Editorial Report]

### THE CITIZEN on Netherlands Capitulation to Terrorism

A page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 21 January notes that "the Netherlands-based multinational, SHV [expansion uknown], which owns 40 percent of Makro in this country, has announced that it is pulling out of South Africa with immediate effect. The reason is that arson attacks have destroyed three of the company's six Makro stores in the Netherlands over an 18-month period, the group responsible, the Revolutionary Anti-Racist Action (RARA), protesting against SHV's involvement in South Africa." The paper says: "We find this submission to terrorism a sad refelction on SHV. As one of the ten leading companies in the Netherlands, it should surely be able to protect its stores or withstand the losses, even if they are as high as R150-million. After all, if a business capitulates to terrorism, it sets itself up as a target for other terrorist groups with other causes, and makes other companies just as vulnerable." "The Netherlands Government is prostituting the liberalism of the Dutch people, who refused to bow their knees to the Nazis but are being forced to bow their knees to the terrorists."

### THE STAR: Trialists Undergo Form of Detention

A page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 21 January comments on the resumption of the Delmas treason trial involving leaders of the UDF. "A year of State evidence has sought to prove that the UDF is the internal wing of the outlawed African National Congress and that it conspired with the ANC and the SA Communist Party to incite the masses to overthrow the Government. The defence, which opens its case today, argues that there is no evidence to support this contention." *The Star* notes that the trial "will have effectively put many top UDF leaders out of circulation for several years." "Mass political trials must necessarily involve complex evidence, and it is better that the Government's adversaries should be brought to court rather than locked up without a hearing. At the end of the day, though, the Delmas trialists may feel they have undergone a form of 'detention without trial' in any case."

### National Interests Not Served by Secrecy

"It has been obvious for years that the Nationalists govern on the principle that the less the public knows the better its interests are served," says a second editorial on the same page. "The principle has been reflected many times in replies to parliamentary questions and to routine journalistic inquiries." The paper comments on the "application of a detainee who had previously been in custody, had been freed and then re-detained. The judge called on a senior police officer to explain the reasons. They appeared to amount to no more than a suspicion, but they were sufficient to deny the detainee his freedom." "We agree that there are occasions when a nation's interests are best served by secrecy, but this Government makes a fetish of it."

### BUSINESS DAY on Danger of U.S. Involvement with ANC

A page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 21 January says: "The overtures to the ANC of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz make sense only in the context of a split in the organisation such as has been perceived by members of the South African Cabinet. If the U.S. intends at long last to take the advice of Senator Edward Kennedy and a string of other Congressmen and get itself on 'the right side of the revolution', it makes sense to do so in a manner that does not repeat the experience of Cuba or Nicaragua." "There is no need to spell out the dangers that might flow from American involvement with a violent, revolutionary organisation which harbours in its bosom a faction that envisages a revolution after the revolution. But it does raise a point: if — to use Maoist terminology — the ANCprovides a sea for the Marxists to swim in, what is our government doing to drain away that sea?"

### CAPE TIMES Urges NP-ANC Dialogue

A page 6 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 20 January says: "Sadly, both the ANC and the NP leadership delude themselves they have more to gain than to lose by refusing to negotiate. By refusing to negotiate, in fact, the NP is promoting the influence of the communists in the ANC, who are well to the fore as long as the 'armed struggle' continues and the dependence on Moscow for armaments remains. At the same time, the NP seems to imagine that the State can bludgeon the ANC into acquiesence. As inconclusive violence drags on and the economy slides further into recession, it is the country which is the loser."

### THE SOWETAN: Rethink on Education Needed

Page 6 of Johannebsurg *Sowetan* in English on 21 January features guest columnist Professor Es'kia Mphahlele, who says that "we should all have foreseen the harsh regulations that have recently come out of the Department of Education and Training, forbidding fragments of a curriculum some people had hoped to push into State schools." "We should have learned by now that we do our cause injustice, even irreparable harm, when we try to fight it in order to score political points, accumulate publicity for the sake of popularity. I think it is intellectual dishonesty for any one to rewrite history and English texts overnight and offer them for alternative education within a system that already stands discredited." Mphahlele does not condone the "sarcasm in the words of the Minister of Education and Development Aid [Gerrit Viljoen] when he says that the 'people's education' is mere talk without any results to show for it. Any one can afford to be smug and speak from a fortress he is confident is impenetrable. There is no virtue in that. Especially as he has constantly avoided discussions within the National Education Crisis Committee, knowing that the forces of South African 'justice' — rather than natural law and reason are on his side."

### BEELD on Elections

"If one looks at the confusion in the opposition parties then it appears that there is no alternative to the NP Government in the country," says a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 21 January. "The so-called apartheid regime which Dr D.F. Malan came into power in 1948 has in the meanwhile changed drastically. It is however, not dead yet, as a part of it is as ugly as ever," says the paper, referring to the Group Areas Act. Nevertheless, "it remains the prerogative of the voters to decide how things are going to change by using their vote. They can do so by debating matters in the coming election. We urge the NP voters to ensure that their candidates know how they feel about matters."